

The Cornell Countryman

Vol. 8

MARCH, 1911

No. 6

REPORTS OF CONFERENCES HELD DURING FARMERS' WEEK, 1911

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE second annual meeting of the Students' Association of the New York State College of Agriculture was held on Tuesday, February 21, in the midst of Farmers' Week. Mr. Samuel Fraser, of Geneseo, presided in the absence of the president.

The meeting was opened by a masterly address by Director Bailey on the part that the Students' Association and similar organizations may take in the present country life movement. Out of this splendid and inspiring address, which was heard by a large audience, grew the following resolutions, which were passed unanimously by the Students' Association:

I. "Resolved, That it is the sense of the Students' Association of the New York State College of Agriculture that all the organizations, forces, and lines of work, represented in the Farmers' Week be welded into a York State Country-Bond, for the purpose of uniting all agencies in a new campaign for rural progress; and that we recommend similar action on the part of the other organizations participating in Farmers' Week."

II. "Resolved, That it is the sense of the Students' Association that Rural Improvement societies be organized in the different neighborhoods in the State to look after the care and the improvement of all public and semi-public property, for the purpose of increasing the attractiveness of the neighborhood, preserv-

ing historic places, and contributing to the satisfaction of the region as a place in which sensitive persons may live; and that we pledge ourselves to endeavor to organize such units in our respective communities."

III. "Recognizing that many country fairs are doing excellent work, but believing that in the large the method or system is inadequate for present-day conditions, and that the invasion of numberless catch-penny amusement features, side-shows, cheap vaudeville, professional travelling exhibitors, advertising devices, and the like, has tended to destroy the local agricultural interest to the extent that the fair is failing of its fundamental purpose,

"Resolved, That the Students' Association of the New York State College of Agriculture recommend to fair associations and agricultural societies in New York State:

"1. That a definite program of re-organization be undertaken, looking toward the creation of a new type of country fair that shall be truly representative of the farming country and of service to it.

"2. That as fast as possible all concessions, shows, midways, and other extraneous features that are not a legitimate expression of country life be eliminated.

"3. That greater effort be made to secure exhibits of local farm stock and produce, home cooking, appliances, handiwork, school work, club work, and the like, seeking to interest

and secure an exhibit from every person in the farming community.

"4. That good games, sports, contests, pageants and other recreational features be introduced for persons of all ages, and be made an important part of every fair."

Mr. Irving S. Warner reported concerning the organization of the Long Island Branch of the Students' Association, and that it had pledged itself; first, to the promotion of the Long Island School of Agriculture; second, to the introduction of agriculture into the high schools; third, to the improvement of rural school grounds and other public places.

The secretary reported a total signed membership to date of 228 persons.

The following officers were elected: President, L. C. Corbett, '90, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.; 1st Vice-President, R. A. Mordoff, '11, President of the Agricultural Association, Ithaca; 2d Vice-President, R. H. Dayton, Sp. '06-'08, East Hampton, L. I.; 3d Vice-President, H. H. Harri- man, W.C., '06, Syracuse; 4th Vice-President, S. G. Judd, '11, Editor CORNELL COUNTRYMAN, Ithaca; Secretary-Treasurer, A. R. Mann, '04, Ithaca; Member-at-large of executive committee, Mr. Samuel Fraser, Geneseo.

The executive committee voted to push the foregoing resolutions, and to continue the organization of local associations or county chapters. The employment service will also be continued, as will the direct touch with former students through the mailing of pamphlets, printed addresses, and the like.

RURAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

On Wednesday and Thursday of Farmers' Week a rural church conference was held, attended by country pastors, theological students, representatives of the faculties of theological seminaries, Y. M. C. A. secretaries, and others. Very able addresses were given by Warren H. Wilson of the Department of Church

and Country Life of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, Rev. Geo. F. Wells of Drew Theological Seminary, Mr. Albert E. Roberts of the International Committee, Y. M. C. A., Rev. C. F. Tator of Northport, Rev. T. M. Morrison of Bellona, Rev. W. C. Taylor of Frankfort, and Director Bailey. The central theme of the conference was "The Community Program." At the country pastors' round table on Thursday morning, the following community program, proposed by Rev. Geo. F. Wells, was adopted:

I Individuality

COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Every country community needs and should have the ministry of the church, and it is the business of the community in coöperation with the church to provide the equipment to facilitate the expression of the religious life of the community; this equipment to include an energetic minister for the administration of the church and to develop the moral and religious leadership of the community.

In determining his relationships to the resources and problems of the community the pastor may need the assistance of a scientific survey of his field.

II Service

CHURCH'S WORK

The country church, in common with all other churches, being an institution for realizing the moral and religious welfare and betterment of society, in the systematic exercise of its functions provides for pastoral visitation, evangelism, temperance and other moral reforms, religious education and missions.

III Unity

CHURCHES WORK TOGETHER

Where country churches are related geographically to other churches in the same community, these churches in maintaining their internal integrity will mutually practice some method of inter-church

unity whereby the comity, the maximum-service federation or the one-minister federation, will be realized, or they will, if the spiritual interests of the community clearly need it, voluntarily proceed to form a single comprehensive church.

IV Association

CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER CO-OPERATE

Country churches in proportion to their inherent capacity to maintain a mutually helpful community relationship will be in vital and coöperative touch with the necessary social interests, movements and institutions in the community. Thus will be realized what is commonly known as the federation of rural social forces. By this means the church will promote or inspire:

- (a) The improvement of schools and their consolidation where needed.
- (b) Coöperation with the grange and all movements looking toward better farming.
- (c) Needed recreations.
- (d) Public health and better living conditions.

The fundamental social institutions thus federated will be able to eliminate the associations which unnecessarily exhaust the community resources.

V Substitution

CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER SOCIALLY SUBSTITUTE

In instances where the structural and essential institutions and agencies of a community are not fulfilling their functions; and cannot by direct personal means be stimulated to accomplish them, the church may temporarily and in behalf of needy classes, such as the marginal people, perform these functions by so-called institutional agencies.

VI Solidarity

THE CHURCH IS THE RELIGIOUS AND MORAL ASPECT OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

The country church, when its internal, federal and community rela-

tions are normally realized and community solidarity is attained, will do its part in maintaining the vital equilibrium of all helpful community factors.

THE CORNELL HORTICULTURAL UNION

The Cornell Horticultural Union had a successful meeting on Thursday, February 23, in which the progress of horticulture in its various branches were discussed by Samuel Fraser on "Orcharding," by W. L. Bonney on "Market Gardening and Trucking," by H. F. Hall on "Coöperation in Marketing," by L. S. Tenney on "Marketing Methods," by P. O'Mara on the development of "Floriculture in the United States" and by Prof. Craig on the "Development of Commercial Orcharding Enterprises in the West and Southwest."

The second annual dinner was held at the Alhambra on Thursday evening and about 55 persons enjoyed a good dinner and much social pleasure. The speakers were:

Samuel Fraser, Toastmaster.

J. P. Stewart, "Theory in Horticulture."

W. L. McKay, "The Nurseryman's Relation to the Orchardist."

Patrick O'Mara represented the N. Y. Florist's Club in an interesting address.

C. R. White, "The Newly Formed Vegetable Association."

S. D. Beckwith, "The Commission Man and the Fruit Dealer."

Uncle John Spencer, "Reminiscences of Early Days at Cornell."

Prof. Craig, "Advice to the Younger Men."

The officers for this year are: President, E. W. Catchpole; vice-president, S. D. Beckwith; Secretary, R. D. Anthony; executive committee, Prof. Craig, chairman, L. B. Judson, J. S. Allis.

THE VEGETABLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

The vegetable growers of New York State convened at the College of Agriculture on Wednesday,

February 22, and appointed a committee to formulate a constitution and by-laws for a state association. On the 23d the constitution was adopted and officers were elected as follows: President, C. R. White of Ionia; vice-president, Mason H. Holmwood of Orchard Park; secretary, Paul Work, Ithaca; treasurer, C. H. Aldrich, Mattituck; executive committee: C. R. White, Paul Work, Ezra A. Tuttle, Eastport; G. M. Keller, Brighton; W. L. Bonney, Batavia. The object of the association was stated as follows:

"Art. II. The object of this association shall be to organize and federate the interests of those engaged in vegetable growing to the end that larger crops of constantly increasing quality may be grown and marketed with increased profit."

The constitution provides for the following committees:

"Art. V. The executive committee shall consist of the president, the secretary, and three members elected at large who shall represent, as far as possible, the different phases of the vegetable industry of the state."

Article VI. provides for a standing committee to represent Marketing, Transportation, Legislation, Investigation, and Federation.

It is the aim of the association to interest local organizations.

The constitution provides for two types of membership, namely: annual and sustaining members. The annual fee is \$2. Any person desiring to support this good work may become a sustaining member on payment of \$100.

CORNELL DAIRY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

During Farmers' Week there was held the Annual Meeting of the Cornell Dairy Students' Association. This Association consists of those students who have taken the Winter Course in Dairying at the New York State College of Agriculture. The object of the Association is to promote the best interests of dairy industry and to hold

together the students who have taken the Winter Dairy Course. This Association has done much good in the past and greater things are expected of it in the future. It is the intention of the Association to become an important link in the York State Country Bond suggested by Director Bailey in his address before the Cornell Students' Association. It is hoped that all former Winter Dairy students, who have not joined the Association will do so at once. By joining the Association they will benefit both the organization and themselves.

At the meeting the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, W. L. Markham; 1st vice-president, John Kelly; 2d vice-president, H. C. Teal; 3d vice-president, R. C. H. Fowler; secretary, Clarence Gaylord; assistant secretary R. C. H. Fowler; treasurer, J. A. Smith.

NEW YORK PLANT BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

The meetings conducted under the auspices of the New York Plant Breeders' Association during Farmers' Week were a great success. There were interesting and valuable talks by members of the Plant-Breeding staff of the College of Agriculture and also many outsiders such as Assistant Secretary W. M. Hays, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Professor L. C. Corbett, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Professor Hedrick, of the Experiment Station, Geneva; Mr. T. E. Martin, of the New York Central Railroad; Mr. Samuel Fraser of Geneseo, and others. The subjects of the talks were broad in their scope, covering the breeding of such farm crops as timothy, corn and potatoes; vegetables including tomatoes, cabbage, etc.; flowers and trees, including a discussion of the breeding of apples, peaches and nut trees.

This series of meetings is the beginning of a broad propaganda line of work which the New York Plant Breeders' Association is planning to carry on in New York State. Special

effort is being made to rapidly increase its membership among men who are doing plant-breeding in all of its various branches.

An affiliation has been made with the American Breeders' Association whereby members of the New York Plant Breeders' Association will also become members of the American Breeders' Association upon the payment of regular dues of the latter, thus allowing all members of the New York Plant Breeders' Association to obtain the annual reports of the National Association and also the Breeders' Magazine issued by it.

At the annual meeting the following officers were elected for next year: President, Samuel Fraser, Geneseo, N. Y.; vice-president, Herbert P. King, Trumansburg, N. Y.; secretary, Arthur W. Gilbert, Ithaca, N. Y.; treasurer, George R. Schaubert, Ballston Lake, N. Y. Additional members of the executive committee are: U. P. Hedrick, Geneva, N. Y.; J. F. Eastman, Morrisville, N. Y.; E. W. Mosher, Aurora, N. Y.

THE HOME-MAKERS CONFERENCE

The program of the third annual meeting of the Homemakers' Conference was held in connection with Farmers' Week at the New York State College of Agriculture, February 20-25. The officers were:

President, Mrs. James Pringle, Ashville, N. Y.; vice-president, Mrs. W. W. Ware, Batavia, N. Y.; recording-secretary, Mrs. Lizzie Breads, Westfield, N. Y.; Corresponding-secretary, Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, Ithaca, N. Y.; treasurer, Mrs. R. H. Wheeler, Ithaca, N. Y.

A course of lectures was given by Professor Howard Riley upon the following subjects:

"Water Supply," "Sewage Disposal," "Mechanical Power for Household Conveniences," "House Lighting and Heating."

These lectures were illustrated with stereopticon. There was an unusually large audience for these lectures as both men and women are interested in the subjects from the standpoint

of the rural dweller who is trying to improve living conditions.

A second course of lectures followed through the week were called an appreciation course. The first one on "Books" by Miss Alice G. McCloskey of the College of Agriculture; the second, on "Appreciation of Growing Plants" by Director L. H. Bailey; "Appreciation of Music" by Mrs. O. S. Morgan of Alfred University, and "Appreciation of Pictures" by Professor O. M. Brauner of the College of Architecture, Cornell University. The program was much improved by this variation of the material side of the Home Economics program through an hour spent with books, pictures, music and plants. These lectures and the interest which they elicited were an illustration of the vision to be had in a study of Home Economics. Mrs. Morgan gave her hearers a delightful period of song. She emphasized in her lectures the desirability of a higher order of music in the rural church, rural school and rural home. She would substitute the folk song and did this so delightfully herself that her argument needed no further reinforcement.

Insect pests of house and garden was the subject of an illustrated lecture by Professor G. W. Herrick of the College of Agriculture. The members of the Department followed their specialties throughout the week; Miss Rose in nutrition, Mrs. Young in planning and furnishing the farm house, Miss Van Rensselaer on household sanitation and one lecture on the housekeeper and the cost of living. Mrs. Comstock's lecture on "How to Frame Pictures" was illustrated by types of pictures and frames.

A conference was held on "Woman's Work in the Grange" led by Mrs. Lizzie Breads, Chairman of the Woman's Work Committee of the New York State Grange. Another conference was held with reports from the Cornell Farmers' Wives' Study Clubs.

On the fourth floor of the College in the Home Economics Department there were exhibits of general interest throughout the week. This included

labor-saving devices with demonstrations of the fireless cooker, vacuum cleaners and washing and ironing machines. There were illustrations of types of work done by the students in the Department with an exhibit of house plans and illustrative material of good house furnishing. The work of the Winter Course students was shown in an exhibit of sewing and of menus. The invalid trays were prepared by Winter Course students and the prize taken for the best invalid tray by Miss Katherine Worden of Ithaca.

The Home Economics Winter Course just closed offers a prize to the next Winter Course for the best menu and dinner served to six persons for a dollar.

At a business meeting of the Homemakers' Conference held at the end of the week it was decided to install the present officers of the Van Rensselaer Club which is the organization of the Home Economics Winter Course class. By this means each Winter Course will have in charge the organization and promotion of the Homemakers' Conference during Farmers' Week. It will also have the effect of binding the Winter Course students throughout the state to the College in a permanent organization. There is a membership fee of 25 cents. It is hoped to add to the membership so as to start a Winter Course Scholarship in the Home Economics Department.

FARMERS' WEEK ACTIVITIES AMONG THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF DAIRY INDUSTRY.

DURING the Farmers' Week held at the New York State College of Agriculture, February 20-25, 1911, the Department of Dairy Industry gave lectures and demonstrations in the following subjects: "Farm Butter Making," "Clean Milk Production," "Testing Milk for Fat by the Babcock Method" and "The Keeping of Cow Records." All of these subjects are very important to the farmer who is making dairying the chief feature of his farm work. The dairyman has an excellent opportunity to produce a high quality of butter on the farm because he has complete control of his milk supply. In many instances the product is not what it should be because the farmer does not understand the principles which underlie good butter making. In the talk upon this important subject the points which were emphasized were those which would be most practical and important to the farm dairyman.

The question of clean milk is an important one and for the past few years has received especial attention. In many of our large cities infants are

wholly dependent upon ordinary market milk. As a food, not only for infants and invalids but for everyone, it is necessary that this article of diet should be produced in a cleanly and sanitary manner. In the lecture on clean milk those points were emphasized which tend to produce clean milk and yet at the same time are cheap, practical and possible to be performed by every dairyman. It was also pointed out that clean milk is necessary in order to make good butter and cheese.

In connection with the talk on the Babcock test a demonstration of testing whole milk was made, and especial emphasis laid upon those points which an inexperienced operator is liable to neglect. A discussion was also taken up on the testing of products of milk, such as cream, butter, skim milk, etc.

Perhaps no subject given by the Dairy Department was as important as the one on the keeping of cow records. It has been proven many times beyond question that a great many dairymen in New York State are keeping cows which not only do

not pay for their keeping but which are actually kept at a loss. In the lecture upon this subject it was pointed out that the one sure way to tell what the cows were actually doing is to weigh the milk and test it for butter fat. A good idea of the production of a cow may be obtained by weighing the milk night and morning once a month and then testing a sample of this milk for butter fat. In order to stimulate work in this direction, cow testing associations are formed. In a cow testing association the farmers band together and each farmer pays a certain price per cow, usually one dollar. A competent man is employed who visits each farm once a month and weighs the milk from each cow and tests it as already mentioned above.

A cow testing association should not be made the means of advertising cows for sale. Its object should be solely to find out which cows in a dairyman's herd are yielding him the most profit. After this knowledge is obtained the dairyman can dispose of his poorest cows and improve his herd by breeding the best cows to a good sire. This is probably one of the most inexpensive ways of building up a good herd and the importance of testing young cows is especially urged so that the best of the young stock may be saved for breeding purposes.

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE.

The department of Horticulture had many out-of-town speakers to give lectures and practical demonstrations. Vegetable culture was expounded by the following:

C. R. White, Ionia, N. Y., in his talk on the "Coöperative Selling Association in Action," aroused a great deal of interest because his association marketed last year a very large acreage of cucumbers all over the country with a considerable degree of success. His talk was very important as it showed the beginning of the application of western marketing methods to eastern markets by the eastern growers.

The evening event with the vegetable growers came Tuesday, the 21st. Mr. H. F. Hall and Prof. L. C. Corbett in illustrated lectures showed the different methods used by growers in various parts of the country. Without a doubt the Boston market gardeners use methods superior to those of growers in any other section. Prof. Corbett has had very wide experience among the most expert market gardeners of the best trucking districts.

On Wednesday morning, Mr. Hall spoke on packing and marketing vegetables. He said that the Boston growers are working very hard at the present time on the problem of distribution and they expect to apply coöperative principles to the local markets.

Mr. Chauncey West, a member of the firm of J. H. West & Sons, spoke Wednesday and Thursday on the growing of vegetables for local market and on greenhouse management. He gave some very valuable information on the most up-to-date methods and was very open and free in expressing himself on all special points of the business with a generosity which has not been characteristic of the growers of the past. Mr. West is an exceedingly energetic and practical grower of both greenhouse and field crops.

Prof. Fippin drew a very large audience on Thursday with his forceful talk on the development of muck lands in New York.

Mr. W. L. Bonney of the firm of Bonney & Ware of Batavia, also spoke on muck land crops. He gave the principles of growing celery and lettuce on muck.

Mr. C. D. Levan, who grows a million plants a year discussed the production of early vegetables.

On Tuesday, a Round Table was held on marketing methods, led by Prof. Craig. The meeting was spirited and interesting.

Mr. R. O. King, of the King Construction Co. and Mr. W. R. Cobb of Lord & Burnham lectured on the development of greenhouse construction and showed some interesting

lantern-slides to illustrate the various features on construction, of their respective companies.

Floriculture was represented by Mr. Patrick O'Mara, a successful florist of New York City, Mr. Arthur Cowee, the Gladiolus specialist of Berlin, N. Y., and Mr. G. Arnold, of James Vicks' Sons Seed Co., Rochester, N. Y.

On Wednesday, Mr. O'Mara gave an exceedingly interesting and inspiring talk on "Opportunities in Floriculture". He strongly recommended Floriculture as a most pleasant and profitable occupation but warned anyone against starting into the cut-flower business without at least two years of practical experience with a large commercial house. In part, he said: "To the young man—go slow about getting into the cut-flower business. Begin as a general florist in a town of five thousand or more inhabitants, to supply the home market. Have a little fruit, a few vegetables, some cut-flowers, and some growing plants for sale. Find out what the people want and grow that mostly. It is an easy line to get into and that is how most of the now successful florists began. Lay down as good a knowledge of landscape gardening as possible, for although Landscape Architects are being made now in the colleges, they will have charge of all the big work and, no matter how many there are of them, there will always be room for the man who can supply decorative plants from his own nursery."

On Friday, Mr. G. Arnold explained the operations of what is now practically a new line of Floriculture, namely the growing of special flower crops in the field. Mr. Arnold has had wide experience in growing flowers and is an expert on the growing of asters. For field crops, he advised a careful choice of soil in order to get a type which is rich, fine and mellow. The flowers used for this purpose must have special qualities, namely: lasting quality, strong stem and good foliage, proper color, firmness and strength to withstand packing and

shipping. The aster is admirably adapted to this purpose as it possesses all of these qualities. Mr. Arnold gave a very complete list of plants which might be used for this purpose, the foremost of which being asters, sweet peas, gladioli, and dahlias.

The department was very fortunate in securing Mr. Arthur Cowee, the well-known Gladiolus Specialist of Berlin, N. Y., to talk on the commercial growing of the gladiolus. Mr. Cowee was formerly a banker who started the raising of gladioli as a mere hobby and afterwards developed the business to very large proportions. In his lecture, Mr. Cowee gave an account of the business from its beginning and explained in detail the methods of growing, propagating, storing and marketing the bulbs. He showed about 100 lantern slides, most of them hand-colored photographs of gladiolus spikes in full bloom. They displayed well the almost infinite variety of color and marking possible to obtain in these most gorgeous flowers. A few of the slides showed great valleys covered with a dense mat of gladioli, colored so naturally that one could imagine the broad fields of red or blue flowers actually before him. Mr. Cowee said that the sight was so grand that hundreds of tourists came from far and wide every year to see the fields in bloom. He gave his audience a special invitation to visit his plantation.

His solution of the labor problem is quite unique. His force of workmen is composed largely of tramps who have happened into the town and were willing to enter his employment. They are given to understand that they will be considered gentlemen until they are proven otherwise and most of them live up to their contract. They are, as a rule, honest, orderly and industrious.

In speaking of the pleasures which he derived from the business, Mr. Cowee said that even as successful and profitable as the occupation might be, the delight of living among growing plants and the love for the exquisite



PART OF THE FARMERS' WEEK FLORAL DISPLAY.

and beautiful flowers was far greater consideration than the profits of the business itself.

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY.

Four well attended lectures were given by the Department. The first, by Prof. C. R. Crosby on "The Cause of Knotty Apples," was very well attended. On Wednesday two lectures were delivered by Prof. G. W. Herrick; one in the morning on "Insect Pests" and another in the afternoon on "Harmful Fruit Insects." On Friday, Prof. Herrick again lectured on "General Insect Pests on the Farm."

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL TECHNOLOGY.

Five general lectures were offered by the Department of Soil Technology as a part of the Farmers' Week program. These were given with particular reference to those questions in the state about which the farmer is in most need of information, and dealt with the following topics: "The Relation of Lime to Soil Improvement," "The Utilization of Muck Lands in New York State," "Home

Mixing of Fertilizers and Calculation of Trade Values," "Drainage" and "The Philosophy of Tillage." Special emphasis was laid upon the relation of the chief farm practices in the improvement of the soil. The order given was as follows: drainage, the maintenance of lime, maintenance of organic matter, deep and thorough tillage, including the conservation of moisture, and the use of fertilizers. When arranged in this order, each practice is in position to attain its highest efficiency, and placed in any other order a lower grade of efficiency is sure to result.

Exhibits were presented in the Soils Laboratory dealing with the capacity of soils to retain and move moisture, the efficiency of mulches, the benefits of drains and their operation, fertilizer materials, forms and equivalency of lime, and the agricultural status of the state.

DEPARTMENT OF FARM MECHANICS.

One of the important exhibits displayed during Farmers' Week was that of the Farm Mechanics Department.

An electric light plant, consisting of gasoline engine, dynamo and storage battery, was in operation. Such an outfit is specially suitable for farm houses and costs about \$450.

A compressed air water system was piped up to a kitchen sink and boiler. A washing machine was connected to the sink faucet and run by water power.

A thermo-water lift, or steam pump with boiler attached and having no moving parts, was quite a novelty in the pump line. The whole thing complete costs \$170.

Nine different types of traction spray rigs, various spraying attachments, spray booms, sprayograph and an outfit showing how to use hand power for spraying on a fairly large scale, were exhibited. The exhibit overflowed into the hallway of the basement, the Farm Mechanics laboratory being far too small to contain it.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FARM MANAGEMENT AND FARM CROPS.

Results of the agricultural survey work, farm accounts, pastures, and corn were discussed during Farmers' Week by the Department of Farm Management and Farm Crops.

"The Most Important Factors in Farm Management and their Application by Some Successful Farmers," was discussed by Professor G. F. Warren in a two-hour talk. Lantern slides were used to show the survey figures upon which the talk was based. Farmers on the poor soil types were found to be making less profits than those on better soils. Distance from market was another factor affecting profits. It was shown that on the average, money spent for hired help was a very profitable investment.

Size of business was shown to be the most important factor. Bigger farms, more capital, more machinery, more cows, more horses, all resulted in bigger profits for the farmer. The gross receipts per acre, were greatest on small farms but the cost of production was still greater so that the net result was a loss. The net profits

per acre increased as the area increased.

Man labor, horse labor, and use of machinery are the largest cost items in farming. All of these are used most efficiently on large farms. On the largest farms, one horse farmed three times as many acres as on the smallest farms; \$100 worth of labor farmed five times as many acres; and at the same time the crop yields were just as good.

Diversity of the business was emphasized as another important factor. Every one of the most successful farmers had more than one important source of income. No farmer who had only one specialty got into the group of most successful farms.

Quality of business, that is, good cows and good crop yields, also bore an important relationship to profits.

A comparison of the twelve most profitable farms with the average, showed that this type of farming which pays the farmer best, also furnishes the most food to cities. One acre on these large efficient farms contributed more food to the city supply than two acres on the average farm.

"Farm Management for Dairymen," was the subject of another talk by Professor Warren. After pointing out the necessities of good cows, and the greater profits in selling market milk rather than butter or milk to creameries, he emphasized the importance of diversity for the dairymen. Dairying is only a partial day's work in summer. To use labor most effectively, more crops than those required for feed must be grown. The most successful dairymen in Tompkins County buy considerable feed and raise hay, or potatoes, or apples, or something else to sell.

For the rural pastors, Professor Warren pointed out several important needs in country life. Among them were more education for the farm boys; other accommodations than the saloon for the farmer when he comes to town; and good dirt roads from the farm districts to the towns, in addition to trunk roads connecting towns.

In another talk, Professor Warren told how to start with small capital. A full report of this will be given in the April issue.

To those interested in keeping farm accounts, Mr. K. C. Livermore suggested ways of simplifying the work and of making more use of the accounts. He pointed out the importance of knowing the profits in the different departments of the business, so that the profits on the business as a whole might be increased.

Professor White gave two lectures on pastures and one on corn. The pastures of New York State are much in need of improvement. The essential points to be noted in the improvement of pastures are: Careful grazing; mowing before midsummer in order to kill weeds and to encourage new growth of grasses; fertilizing or barnyard manure; and reseeding.

Variety tests of corn have been carried on in various parts of the state for two years. In 1910, the average yields of shelled corn of all flints was 39 bushels per acre. The average yield of all dents was 34 bushels per acre. In at least three-fourths of the state, the flints are safer than the dents where grain is needed. Under many conditions they are probably best also for the silo.

The corn show which was conducted under Professor White's direction, is described in another place.

DEPARTMENT OF POULTRY INDUSTRY

The regular program of demonstrations and lecture by the De-

partment were carried out entire. That everything was successful is proven by the fact that many were turned away, the Head House being too small to hold the crowds. All the former Winter Course classes were represented.

The following lectures outside of the Department lectures were given: "Fattening of Fowls," by Mr. Fred Skinner, Green, N. Y.; Demonstration of Caponizer, and lecture on "Marketing of Soft Roasters," by Henry Dana Smith of Wilmington, Mass.; and two lectures by Prof. H. C. Pierce, Washington, D. C., on "Marketing of Poultry Products as Conducted on a Large Scale in the West."

The Winter Course students formed a Poultry Association and became affiliated with the York State Bond of Agricultural Students.

A meeting of the Poultry Association was also held Thursday evening of Farmers' Week. A list of speakers and subjects follows: Mr. L. H. Schwartz, "Comparison of Moulting Period of Fowls and their Prolificacy." Mr. J. E. Dougherty, "Comparative Prices of Poultry, Eggs and Building Material in Different Sections of the United States." Mr. A. L. Dean, "Correlation Between the Prolificacy of Fowls, their Weight, and the Weight of the Eggs Produced." Mr. F. M. Briwa, "Hopper Method of Feeding Hens." Mr. E. A. Benjamin, "Market Eggs in New York State."



THE DOOM OF OUR WILD LIFE

By William T. Hornaday

UNLESS the real Americans of today arouse themselves from the lethargy that binds them like a narcotic spell, we will presently hand over to posterity a continent practically destitute of desirable wild life. Any man who cares can easily convince himself on this point by an examination of the ledger of Predatory Man in account with Nature.

All our wild life that is best worth having is rapidly slipping away from us. If time and space were available, I would willingly bring forward proofs of the truth of this statement; but after all, who is there who is familiar with the history of our fauna who will dispute it? There are localities here and there in which a few bird species are said to be "holding their own", or it may be claimed are "increasing"; but all such are merely local exceptions. Take it all over any one state, or over the United States or even the continent if you will, and there is but one statement that fits the case. *Our desirable wild life is rapidly vanishing!*

There are only two real questions of magnitude. One is,—is it possible to arouse the people to the point of adequate action before it is too late?—and the other,—*how* can they be aroused, and galvanized into adequate action?

The future of our wild life is bound up in the answers to those two questions. The road to Conservation is straight and plain. In fifteen minutes time, I can write down specific directions for the saving of our wild creatures, with a medicine-man's "guarantee" that if put into practice at an early date they will be thoroughly effective. But can we arouse the Public to the actual locking of the door before the horses all are stolen?

There is nothing mysterious about the methods by which our wild creatures might, could and should be saved. Here are the requirements:

Stop the sale of wild game, everywhere.

Stop all shooting of birds in winter and spring.

Stop the use of "pump" and "automatic" guns in hunting.

Stop all shooting of shore birds, doves, robins, and squirrels as "game" and "food".

Reduce all bag limits on birds from 50 to 75 per-cent.

Shorten all open seasons at least 50 per cent.

Stop, all over the world, the killing of birds for commercial or millinery purposes.

Establish 5- or 10-year close seasons for all endangered species.

Absolutely prevent the ownership of firearms by aliens.

Now, the universal adoption of this program would save our wild life; beyond all question. But how about its adoption?

Whenever it is read, in mixed company, two things happen. (1) The man who does not feel interested in shooting says, "Too much trouble!"

(2) The man who does shoot sometimes objects to *the thing that hits him*, and wants the restrictions put on the other fellow!

For example, the makers and users of the deadly automatic or "auto-loading" shot-gun say, "Enforce the laws thoroughly! Limit the bag! Stop the sale of game; but DON'T touch my automatic gun! What! Cripple an Infant Industry? Hamper Inventive Genius? For shame! Go and restrict the other fellow!"

I have heard this talk by the hour, in my office, word for word as here set down. And the worst of it is, many a good sportsman wants his PET privilege held inviolate. Last winter when we tried to get the Legislature to pass our bill to save the gray squirrel, certain parties demanded that Chautauqua County be left out of the close-season schedule; another demanded that Steuben



ONE HOUR'S SLAUGHTER WITH TWO AUTOMATIC SHOT-GUNS,—218 WILD GEESSE!
THE TOTAL KILL FOR THE DAY WAS 450!!

County be left out; and another that his county of Essex be left out. And so it went until six counties were omitted as the price of progress; and finally the whole bill was knifed in the back on one of the dark days of the session. The people of the Empire State still have the glorious privilege of hunting gray squirrels as "game", and eating their rat-like flesh as "food". Englishmen are amazed at us; for squirrels are eaten by no other white men on earth! This may be a digression; but it illustrates the difficulties in getting a square deal for a vanishing species, even in our own house.

These are the chief enemies of wild life:—

The millions of gunners who shoot in accordance with extravagantly liberal laws.

The market-gunners and pot-hunters, who shoot for revenue only.

The game dealers, who market slaughtered game, for money.

The plume-hunters, who slaughter for the millinery trade.

The makers of such slaughtering machines as automatic and "pump" guns.

The men who will not put on the statute books adequate protective laws.

The men who will contribute neither time nor money to the cause of wild-life protection.

Money is needed for practical, level-headed campaign work for the saving of wild life; but it seems impossible to secure more than a beggarly allowance. Recently I have asked for anything from \$9,000 up to \$2,000,000; but only Mr. Alfred Wilcox ever has given a large sum to aid this cause. That went to the National Association of Audubon Societies,—\$332,000: and its annual income is doing grand work!

With the income of \$2,000,000 it would be possible to save a satisfactory remnant of the wild life of North America; but the money comes not.

The work of the protectionists needs to be educative, repressive and con-

structive; and the effort must be continuous. The wild life of to-day is not ours, to do with as we please. It has been given to us *in trust*, for those who come after us, and who will audit our books of stewardship. Shall we turn over to them a desolate continent? I am inclined to fear that we will.

At this moment, I desire help with the senators and assemblymen at Albany in securing the passage of my bill to stop the sale of wild game

throughout the State of New York, at all seasons. Write to *your* Senator and Assemblyman on this subject, and ask him to support the bill of Senator Bayne (Senate No. 513). If passed, it will go farther than any other one fair measure could go toward saving our game birds from the annihilation that threatens them. When success has been attained in New York, we will try other states near home; and even Virginia and the Carolinas.

Who will lend a hand?

A FEW THOUGHTS ON MUCK FARMING

By W. L. Bonney

Batavia, N. Y.

DURING recent years the deepening interest in agriculture and the development of its various branches, has been truly wonderful. The possibilities of the various kinds of soil are beginning to be realized.

"Up to date" methods in general farming, are proving what may be done on the average farm. New sanitary conditions in dairying, scientific methods in stock raising, fattening of lambs, etc., the new light which study and education has thrown on the problems of the orchardist, and the wonderful possibilities of the arid lands of the West through irrigation, and many other developments show that men are beginning to realize that agriculture is not only a profession but an art. Among the new developments is the drainage, clearing and subduing of the muck swamps. That old "back lot" with its few acres of muck swamp, the eyesore and dumping place of the farm, on which we were unwilling even to pay taxes, has been transformed into a productive field, producing on one acre twice as much as on any two of its upland neighbors.

I wish to state that this little article about muck land is not intended as a treatise on that subject. I am simply stating a few facts and ideas drawn from our limited experience. It seems to me that a

good deep muck soil is simply an ideal deposit in which to grow certain vegetables by *feeding* them. I am not a chemist nor can I answer many of the whys or wherefores of the fertility of muck, but our experience has taught us that, to produce, to any degree of perfection, the crops we wish to grow (celery, onions, lettuce, spinach, etc.) we must *feed* them liberally. Our particular piece of muck is so situated that natural drainage is impossible. We have a system of ditches from ten to fifteen rods apart, emptying into a larger ditch which leads to a centrifugal pump having a capacity of 2,000 gallons per minute. This we operate for about a month in the spring, which reduces the water level to about two feet below the surface.

Our water supply is from springs on the upper side of the muck, thus enabling us to utilize them for irrigation in dry seasons. We like to plow our land in the fall as far as possible, allowing the frost to get in its work of pulverizing, etc. In fitting the soil the roller and disc harrow are the most important tools. We like to roll frequently to keep the muck firm and assist in capillary attraction. The secret in muck land, if secret there is, lies largely in its never-failing water supply underneath. In

sowing any seed we find it well to roll or firm the seed well into the soil, in order to hasten germination. Shallow cultivation gives best results. Great care and "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" from weeds.

We have found that celery, lettuce, onions and spinach are well adapted to muck. Potatoes are good for subduing the ground that has been newly cleared. There are undoubtedly other vegetables which could be grown at a profit but we have been so busy trying to supply the demand for the few varieties on which we specialize, that we have had little time for experimenting. Under favorable conditions large yields of the above named vegetables can be grown on these old reclaimed swamps. But do not think that the "Mucker's" life is strewn with roses. An old onion grower once said to me, "It isn't all honey pie."

We have to contend not only with the usual diseases and insect pests,

but the lightness and dryness of the surface of the muck, causes heavy losses from blowing out of crops in high wind. The endless variety of weeds, the rapidity with which they grow and the difficulty in killing them on this moist soil, are some of the trials incidental to muck farming.

The difficulty and bad results of maintaining so many open ditches, is another problem. We hope to solve this with tile. But as yet this is an experiment. But after all, difficulties are only stepping stones to greater achievement, if we will but use them as such.

To the man who is willing to study the conditions, to do a lot of good hard work, to add patience to perseverance and to be thorough in little details, there will be substantial reward in the development of the muck swamp, and the satisfaction of seeing an unsightly portion of the earth transformed into a garden.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF THE ADDRESS TO THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FEBRUARY 21, 1911

By L. H. Bailey

THE Farmers' Week is the outgrowth of the Agricultural Experimenters' League of New York, an organization that was effected March 3, 1903. The object of the Experimenters' League is stated in its constitution to be "for the promotion of co-operative experiments in the various departments of farm husbandry; for the promotion of intercourse among those studying farm problems, for the advancement of agricultural education; for the collection and dissemination of data relating to country life; and for the purpose of supporting legislation favorable to the promotion of these objects."

Subsequently an organization was effected of the former and present students of the College of Agriculture

and a constitution was adopted on February 9, 1910, which stated the name of the organization to be the "Students' Association of the New York State College of Agriculture," and it stated the objects of the association as follows: "(1) to supply a bond that shall unite all resident and former students of the New York State College of Agriculture; (2) to advance the interests of the College; (3) to promote country life interests at large."

The Experimenters' League has practically ceased to function because the College of Agriculture has not had sufficient funds to enable it to project and supervise experiments in the field in the way in which it formerly handled such work. The organiza-

tion is still in existence, however. My general position is that all organizations which represent useful work would better not be discontinued even though they are temporarily inactive, but rather that they should be re-organized and re-projected.

The Students' Association is more actively in existence, but it is not accomplishing the work that properly belongs to an organization of this kind and this is for the same reason, that is, because the College of Agriculture does not have funds with which to hold together the work of the students and to give them definite things to accomplish.

THREE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS

It is not enough that these two societies merely exist. They must undertake something definite to accomplish. Many things need to be done for country life. I wish to call your attention to the three primary recommendations of the Commission on Country Life.

1. Taking Stock of Country Life. There should be organized, as explained in the main report, under government leadership, a comprehensive plan for an exhaustive study or survey of all the conditions that surround the business of farming and the people who live in the country, in order to take stock of our resources and to supply the farmer with local knowledge. Federal and state governments, agricultural colleges and other educational agencies, organizations of various types, and individual students of the problem should be brought into coöperation for this great work of investigating with minute care all agricultural and country life conditions.

2. Nationalized Extension Work. Each state college of agriculture should be empowered to organize as soon as practicable a complete department of college extension, so managed as to reach every person on the land in its state, with both information and inspiration. The work should include such forms of extension teaching as lectures, bulletins, reading courses,

correspondence courses, demonstration, and other means of reaching the people at home and on their farms. It should be designed to forward not only the business of agriculture, but sanitation, education, home-making, and all interests of country life.

3. A Campaign for Rural Progress. We urge the holding of local, state, and even national conferences on rural progress, designed to unite the interests of education, organization, and religion into one forward movement for the rebuilding of country life. Rural teachers, librarians, clergymen, editors, physicians, and others may well unite with farmers in studying and discussing the rural question in all its aspects. We must in some way unite all institutions, all organizations all individuals having any interest in country life into one great campaign for rural progress.

We must make public sentiment along these three great lines of effort. I think it is particularly incumbent on the organizations associated with this Farmers' Week that these ideas be promulgated, and particularly that we undertake to develop a good campaign for rural progress. I have a special pride and desire that New York State should not fall behind in these great pieces of public benefit.

FARMERS' WEEK

As I have already indicated, Farmers' Week is the outgrowth of the Experimenters' League. We are now assembled in the fourth annual conclave.

The purpose of this great convention, or series of conventions, is to provide a meeting place for all those who are interested in a better country life, a forum for the discussion of any and all the questions relating thereto, and a center from which practical and vital ideas shall radiate throughout the State. It is not enough merely that we come together and discuss. The value of the Farmers' Week lies in actually working things out.

I do not expect that we can put into operation all the suggestions that are made in a great convention like this.

If we practice one-fourth as much as we preach it will be well worth our while. Our preaching must always be in advance of our practice, else our practice will be very poor. Preaching sets our ideals. We work toward them as rapidly as we can; and as we work, the ideals still travel ahead of us and lead us on. With all the progress in the extension of physical power and resources of the human race, the range of the human mind shows still greater extension. The imagination sweeps the universe and contacts every ultimate atom of the creation in a way unknown to those of former time. But the ability to perform is limited. Physical endurance is bound; time is short. So many are the new things to do that we feel the days to be growing shorter as the planet grows older; but at least some of the ideas originating and crystallizing in this convention must be applied directly on the farms and in the rural neighborhoods else the Week will be merely one of entertainment. I want Farmers' Week to function 365 days in the year.

The enterprises that converge in Farmers' Week are practically as many as the departments comprising the College of Agriculture; and in addition thereto are many social and economic movements that are not represented in our departmental organization. What the College is, Farmers' Week will be. One is to be a measure and expression of the other.

YORK-STATE COUNTRY-BOND

All these many organizations and activities ought to be consolidated, or at least federated, into one organism for country life work. It is the first object of the Students' Association "to supply a bond." I now, therefore, suggest that we converge all the activities of Farmers' Week into a York-State Country-Bond.

I do not have it in mind to organize a new society with constitution, by-laws and officers, but only to bring together all these agencies to discuss some of the questions that are common to them all. I should like to have one hour set aside each day in

Farmers' Week for a general meeting of all the organizations, for the discussion of questions that originate in the different departments and organizations. If, for example, the New York Plant Breeders' Association were to pass a resolution in regard to the breeding of crops, its authority would be accepted by the public at once; but if it should pass a resolution in regard to agricultural education or parcels post or other general subject, the action ought to go before a general meeting and be reinforced by the authority of all the interests that make up Farmers' Week. I should think that the administration of the College would comprise the natural officering of the York-State Country-Bond. It would in no way be a competitor of societies that already are in existence, but rather a federation and a clearing-house for the activities that naturally center at the College of Agriculture and that find their great public expression on the occasion of Farmers' Week.

The two organizations that would be most central to the York-State Country-Bond are the Experimenters' League standing for investigation, testing, demonstration, recording of experimental results; and the Students' Association for fellowship and public work. The former would be concerned chiefly with questions of country life welfare, such as church and school work, fairs, village improvement, rural health, rural government leagues, business co-operation, libraries, good roads publicity, and the like.

Associated with the Farmers' Week are a number of regular organizations, such as the Home-Makers' Conference, State Drainage Association, New York Plant Breeders' Association, Poultry Institute, Rural Church Conference, Vegetable Growers, Association, Horticultural Union. There will eventually, no doubt, be as many of these organizations as there are departments in the College of Agriculture. There is always a tendency to take these departmental subjects out of the Experimenters' League, but

there will still be need of the League to take care of the general and un-separated units.

By a proper process of welding we could have a confederation or bond of as many societies or committees as there are lines of work to be done. The extension officer in each department of the College would probably be the Secretary in the society representing that departmental line of work but the other officers should preferably be persons not connected with the College; but all these officers would be bonded together as the departments are now bonded in the College of Agriculture.

We shall need to have a regular permanent secretary of the Experimenters' League at the College of Agriculture, and also a regular secretary of the Students' Association.

It is proposed that the College of Agriculture begin soon to issue an Announcer, which will be a monthly publication, announcing all the activities of the College both in the institution itself and throughout the state, providing a means of spreading the knowledge of the bulletins through abstracts of them, and a way of propagating the reading-courses. This Announcer would naturally form a sort of organ of publicity for the different parts of the Country-Bond.

These suggestions mean, if carried out, that I am here proposing a way of organizing the extension work of the New York State College of Agriculture.

DEFINITE SUGGESTIONS

The gain in the organization of the Country-Bond, such as I have suggested, lies, first, in the very fact that it is a bond, or a union of forces;

second, that it will enable us to secure unity of action on public rural questions; third, that it will bring together people of many kinds and many minds, not alone students; fourth, that it will result in the holding of a number of mass meetings at each Farmers' Week to discuss public policies which originate in the branches, groups and committees. When such a Bond speaks, after careful deliberation, the people must listen.

I am aware of the fact that I am now speaking to one of the co-ordinate branches or parts of Farmers' Week, that is, to the Students' Association. I, therefore, close my remarks with a suggestion of definite things for this Association to undertake during this coming year, as follows:

(1) The consideration of a resolution that it is the sense of this body that we band ourselves into one organism uniting all forces for a campaign of rural progress within the Empire State.

(2) That the Association express itself on the nature and work of county and local affairs.

(3) That the Association consider the feasibility of endeavoring to promote the establishment of rural improvement societies, which shall have for their object the general betterment of country life conditions in the care of roads and roadsides, of public property, river banks and lake shores, the elimination of advertising signs, controlling the depredations of the telegraph and telephone companies, spreading information in regard to trees, lawns and flowers, and in general making public sentiment looking toward the increasing of the attractiveness of the open country as a place in which sensitive persons may live.

THE SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE DRAINAGE ASSOCIATION

THE Second Annual Convention of the New York State Drainage Association was held on Tuesday, February 21, in the Dairy Lecture Room of the College of Agriculture. There was a large attendance at all of the sessions and much increase in interest in the subject was manifest. Twenty-three members were added to the Association, making a total of 107. These are widely distributed throughout the state. In addition to the members of the Association, the program attracted many persons who were in attendance at the Farmers' Week program.

The first address of the meeting was by G. Wendell Bush, Manager of Arden Farms, at Arden, N. Y. He described the extensive operations which have been carried on on the Harriman estate, including the dredging and straightening of the Ramapo river by the use of a steam dredge. A number of hundred of acres of muck and swamp land have been drained and with good results in crop yields.

Mr. W. L. Bonney, a practical truck grower of Batavia, described in detail the methods which have been used by the firm of Bonney & Ware in reclaiming muck land and the production of truck crops.

Mr. Henry E. Cox, of Geneseo, read a paper in which he described in considerable detail the methods which he has found successful in handling clay land. At the opening of the afternoon session, the results of the Findlay drainage competition were announced. Four papers were entered in the contest and the award was made by Mr. C. G. Elliott, of the Office of Drainage Investigations, United States Department of Agriculture. The first prize of a solid silver cup, properly engraved and inscribed, was awarded to Mr. David M. Dunning, of Auburn, which report-

ed the drainage and renovation of a part of a farm of 190 acres near the head of Cayuga lake. The greater part of the area had been formerly drained, but owing to imperfect workmanship the system was inoperative. The total cost of the drainage system amounted to about \$41 per acre. The landlord's half of the crop for two years practically covered this expense.

The second prize, a ten dollar gold piece, was awarded to Mr. I. C. H. Cook, of South Byron, N. Y., for report upon practical drainage operations on a small farm which had been carried out over a long period of years. Many difficulties have been encountered in the way of soil conditions and outlet, all of which were described. The average cost of the system on the 100 acres has been, up to the present time, \$16 per acre. The benefits in increased yields of crop have been very marked. This paper showed particularly what may be accomplished by the farmer of small means. The prizes were presented to the recipients by Director Bailey at the evening session in a felicitous speech, in which he strongly emphasized the fact that the area of land east of the Mississippi river which can be reclaimed by drainage is far in excess of the area west of that river which may be reclaimed by irrigation. He emphasized the fact that state and federal programs should be inaugurated to make use of the land now lying waste from the lack of drainage in order that the growing demands for food may be met. He recognized the fact that irrigation has a place as a farm practice in the eastern states, but pointed out that the annual rainfall is adequate for full crop yields, and that the problem of the farmer is primarily that of so conserving and utilizing his natural water supply



THE DRAINAGE CONVENTION IN SESSION IN THE DAIRY LECTURE ROOM.

that it will not need to be supplemented by irrigation, and that anomalous as it may seem, drainage actually increases the amount of moisture which is available to crops.

He spoke with special commendation of Mr. J. A. S. D. Findlay, of Salisbury Mills, N. Y., who made possible the prizes that were awarded, and recognized in this act a broad-minded citizenship, which is especially to be commended.

It was also announced at this time that three prizes, consisting of gold, silver and bronze medals, will be offered by the Association for the ensuing year for best reports on drainage, similar to those which were offered the past year. These prizes were made possible by the generosity of certain members of the Association. The conditions of the contest will be published in the form of a circular, which may be had from the Secretary or President of the Association. It is especially hoped that during the next year these contests will be carried to the local communities and that they may afford to granges and other agricultural societies the means of stimulating interest in farm drain-

age and improved soil management in their several regions.

Mr. C. R. White, of Ionia, spoke on ditching machines and implements, and illustrated his talk with numerous lantern slides showing various power machines, as well as the smaller implements such as plows, etc., which aid greatly in the construction of drains. Mr. White operates a Buckeye Traction Ditcher on his farm and has constructed many hundreds of rods of drains with that machine, and was, therefore, able to speak with special authority as to its usefulness. He also spoke particularly of the Cyclone ditching plow, which is being introduced on many farms in the state and which is manufactured by the Jeschke Co., of Bellevue, Ohio, and reports of the results from the use of it are quite favorable.

The discussion of the quality of drain tile was opened by a paper prepared by B. F. Lockwood on "Cement Tile" in which he expressed the opinion that the cement type of tile has many advantages over clay tile and that it can be manufactured at prices in competition with the latter. Mr. Lockwood has just installed a

machine for their manufacture and will put cement tile on the market during the coming season. A general discussion of the merits of different kinds of clay tile ensued in which the very great distinction of quality and usefulness between soft burned and hard burned or vitrified tile was brought out. In the discussion as to the size of tile, the sentiment was opposed to those smaller than three inches in diameter because of their small carrying capacity as well as their great liability to become clogged.

Mr. I. C. H. Cook, of Batavia, presented a paper on the "Admission of Surface Water to Tile Drains" in which he discussed various types of filters and the use of the silt basin for that purpose. The paper was largely the result of his own experience.

The President's address outlined the increase in interest in the practice of drainage which has occurred within the last three years, presenting figures of the sale of tile by the various manufacturers, showing that the increase had ranged from 30 to 100 percent for different dealers. The dealers noted in particular the tendency away from the use of two inch size of tile.

Attention was called to the achievement of the Association in effecting an amendment to the State Drainage law, which eliminates its former inefficiency. This law which was enacted in 1895 was declared unconstitutional in 1899 because its method in acquiring an outlet for a drainage system was in opposition to the federal constitution. The state law regulating agricultural drainage in New York was carefully studied by able attorneys for the Association, with the result that the amendment which has been enacted provides that the outlet shall be acquired by the usual condemnation procedure, and that the aggrieved party receive damage in advance of any construction operations. Some question was also raised in the court decision as to the recognition of drainage for agricultural purposes as a public benefit. A careful

study of the situation seems to eliminate this as a practical difficulty, although New York State courts have been rather behind the federal court and the courts of other states in such recognition in our economic development. Under the above mentioned amendment, it is now possible for a farmer or group of farmers having undrained land deficient in outlets to acquire such outlet by simple and easy method of procedure and at a financial outlay which generally renders the operation economical and even highly profitable for the great majority of areas. A number of propositions have already been taken up upon the basis of this new provision, and it is expected that considerable activity will be developed in that direction within the next few years, looking to the improvement of drainage in many sections of the state.

The widening of the activity of the Association by means of committees for various phases of drainage practice was suggested by the President, and later provision was made for the appointment of such committees. Those which were provided was a committee on drainage of clay lands, of hill lands, muck land, sandy land, study of drainage machinery, or drain tile, consideration of drainage legislation, including state aid, and the advisability of a summer field meeting.

The evening session was presided over by Commissioner of Agriculture, R. A. Pearson, who opened the meeting with remarks as to the fundamental importance of the subjects of the discussion.

The first paper was by Milo B. Williams, of the Office of Irrigation Investigations, United States Department of Agriculture, on "Irrigation in the Eastern States" and was illustrated with numerous lantern slides, which showed various phases in the construction of irrigation systems, and the application of water to the soil.

The last paper of the evening was presented by Professor Wm. H. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College,

at Guelph. That province, through the Provincial College of Agriculture, has gone much further in the promotion of farm drainage than any other section of the country. Professor Day finds that whereas the practice of drainage five years ago was on the decline, since that date there has been an increase of over 100 percent in the length of drains laid. Accurate figures on this point were obtainable because of the records kept in the Department of Mines as to the amount of tile handled each year. Professor Day finds that the chief obstacle to the extension of tile drainage is not so much a lack of understanding of the methods of construction as lack of understanding of the actual benefits to be derived from the practice. These he outlined in some detail, following which he described the two policies which have been developed for the assistance of the farmer in the construction of the land drainage as well as in the extension of an understanding of its benefits.

The first of these relates to the provision of expert assistance in planning and constructing a drainage system. Through the College of Agriculture, which gives instruction in farm drainage, there has been provided a corps of experts who are trained in the simple methods of surveying and leveling which are necessary to construct a topographic map of a farm, and design a drainage system based on the soil and topographic conditions. This is especially helpful to the farmer in cases where the topography is complex, the soil diverse or the outlet a matter of question. The salary of these experts is paid by the province through the College of Agriculture, while their traveling and subsistence expenses while in the field are paid by the party who receives assistance. Farmers who receive such assistance are also required to make provision for the holding of a demonstration after the system has been planned, and when it is in process of construction, if possible. Under this arrangement the

co-operator is required to submit the name of twenty of his fellow farmers who receive notice of the demonstration and printed matter which will enable them the better to understand its object. These demonstrations are in charge of the experts sent out from the College, and when taken in connection with the practical results in increased crop yields that occur in the various communities they have been found a most efficient means of spreading the practice of drainage.

The second type of assistance which is given the farmer is a financial one. By the provision of an old statute called the Timber, Stone and Drain Act, it is provided that a township may issue debenture bonds to raise money which will be loaned to individual farmers in amounts not to exceed one thousand dollars each, for construction of farm drainage. These bonds, when the proposition has been properly passed upon by a qualified expert, will be purchased by the province, so that in effect the money is advanced by the provincial government. The act provides that the money is to be repaid in twenty annual installments, the unpaid balance bearing a low rate of interest. From figures which have been obtained upon a large number of farms, Professor Day showed that for each one hundred dollars worth of drainage constructed, the annual cost under this system would be, including the annual payment on the principal, less than ten dollars. This sum of money would drain on the average about four acres of land, and the increase in yields have amounted to about twenty dollars per acre, or eighty dollars.

Both systems of aid have worked very satisfactorily in the hands of the Ontario College of Agriculture, and the demands upon them are increasing very rapidly.

The officers of the Drainage Association for the ensuing year are President, Elmer O. Pippin, College of Agriculture; secretary, I. C. H. Cook, South Byron; and treasurer, C. R. White, of Ionia.

A WELSH FAIR DAY

By Joseph J. Davies, M. A.

DURING the autumn of last year, it was my good fortune to spend several weeks on a Welsh farm just at the edge of the mountain country of Montgomeryshire, one of the little known portions of the principality. While there I saw many quaint customs which carried me back to an age far earlier than anything in the memory of people now living in the older portions of our country. Probably the most typical as well as interesting of the things which I saw was the great Autumn Fair which was held toward the latter part of September in the market town of Llanfyllin. This was not a fair as we know it but a great public sale when all who wished to either buy or sell cattle, sheep or other animals came together on a set date in the long main street of the village.

On Fair Day the most unobserving traveler would have noticed an unusual air of life on the little branch railway. For Llanfyllin is at the "head of navigation" on the railway, the place where the early Victorian era as exemplified by the Cambrian Railway and the age of Will Shakespeare or the Pilgrim fathers as represented by the present day life of the people on the mountain farms meet. The morning train was twice its usual length, every carriage literally crowded to the doors; while people stood in the aisle and corridor or sat on hamper of live poultry and piles of harness. Even the spaces under the seats were utilized to stow away bundles, market baskets and sometimes collie dogs. The highways leading into town from every direction were equally crowded, all traffic headed toward the Fair. The town was crowded to overflowing with stock as well as people when the morning train came in, half an hour late as is usual on the Cambrian Railway.

It was an interesting crowd that filed out of the station enclosure and

climbed the hill leading up to the town. The men for the most part, were clad in suits of homespun made from the wool raised on their own farms. The color, usually a greenish or brownish drab gave evidence of the crude facilities for dyeing and finishing the cloth in the small "factories" where the farmer sends the wool to be dyed in a primitive way and woven into cloth on hand looms. It comes back to him in large rolls from which are cut the entire wardrobe of the family, often with the aid of the village tailor but sometimes at home. For these people although they had many of the characteristics of an American holiday crowd came from far different homes than ours, and lead a life amid the primitive surroundings of our forefathers in colonial days.

They slowly made their way up-town past the Congregational Chapel and the Cambrian Inn, institutions representative of the chief industries of the village in the long somnolent periods between fairs when the most hilarious social event is a funeral. First in order of the animals which were lined up along the length of High Street were the cart horses. They were of every color and size. Next were the mares and their colts. The mothers were of the usual English cart horse type, built on the same generous lines as a New York Central freight locomotive while the youngsters were uncouth little parcels of awkwardness, mostly legs, whose big bones stuck out in angular ridges and bumps. Above, the street widened and in the widest part near the town pump temporary pens had been erected to accommodate the sheep. These pens enclosed a large variety of animals from the large English breeds to the small clean limbed Welsh mountain sheep from the hill country. A few pigs were shown in the pens but most of the porkers were secured under stout nets in the



A WELSH FARMHOUSE IN THE HILL COUNTRY.

upturned market carts which lined the street in places like parked artillery. Beyond the street was given up to the cattle, each lot watched by a boy or man who prevented them joining forces with the neighboring groups.

Of course to the people who thronged the street, making it an ever shifting sea of humanity, the chief business was the buying and selling of stock, but sociable souls found time to congregate in twos and threes in the middle of the road and have a prolonged visit to the embarrassment of teamsters and herders who adroitly circumnavigated the confabulation or patiently waited until the story was told. A heavy faced Englishman from Manchester and a little man from far back among the mountains haggled over a small group of sheep beside one of the pens. The little mountaineer was excited. On the sale of those twenty or more

sheep depended the profits of his farm for several months. He fairly shrieked in his eagerness to persuade the big Englishman to pay a few pence more a head for them, excitedly pointing out the good points of the animals or emphasizing his arguments by pounding on the railing with the head of his cane. But the Englishman knew his business too well to be moved and maintained an air of studied indifference, the personification of passive inertia. The little man started to walk away, but a quiet word brought him back and once more the flood gates of eloquence were unloosed. This happened several times until after half an hour's haggling the deal was made and the shilling changed hands to bind the bargain.

At the end of the sheep pens the village auctioneer was mounted on a kitchen chair while at intervals an assistant with a large bell announced



WELSH MOUNTAIN SHEEP.

the next lot to be offered for sale and impatiently exhorted the owners to "bring them up". By the dint of much pushing, shoving and prodding a group of frightened sheep would be propelled into the center of the ring formed by the onlookers or an informal tug of war would take place between a strenuously perverse ram and his owner on the opposite end of five feet of rope which in its gyrations momentarily threatened to upset the chair on which the auctioneer was perched busily "knocking down" the apparent winner of the contest. Sheep dogs wandered about at the heels of their masters or herded sheep through the crowd. Sometimes a refractory animal would make a dash for liberty. A rush occurred in which the sheep followed by the dog and men dodged under carts and over the wares of the street merchants on the roadside. Somebody would try to stop the runaway by an approved tackle as practiced in American football which usually resulted in the

well meaning one finding himself embracing a squirming protesting collie dog.

By noon the serious part of the day was over. Most of the cattle and sheep had been sold and many of them loaded on the trucks preparatory to shipment. The crowd with money in its pockets gave itself over to a half day of holiday making. This had been looked forward to for many weeks on the part of the farm servants for after the "Master" has sold his cattle he usually gives each of the men and boys a half sovereign or so as a part of their yearly wages and with this the young gallants proceeded to treat their lady friends who work in the kitchen or dairy to an afternoon of unalloyed bliss. By the bridge which spans the river "Cain", river in name only, since it has the dimensions of a fair sized meadow brook—a travelling amusement caravan had established itself for the day. The familiar sledge hammer and the weight which rose up a graduated pole



THE BRIDGE OVER THE "CAIN" RIVER.

when the peg was struck, the shooting gallery and the old reliable "cocoa nut shy" dear to the heart of the small boy were all there and in commission. But the center of attraction was the "hobby horses", a red and gold merry-go-round with rocking wooden horses on which the adventurous ones rode at a penny a ride daring the dangers of the unfamiliar method of locomotion and the more real and terrible perils of the displeasure of the "unco' guid" at home. The steeds went merrily round to the tune of a familiar Sunday School hymn: "Sweet Hour of Prayer", if I remember rightly, played in two step tempo and punctuated by the exhaust of the engine and the whangs when the bullet struck the target in the nearby shooting gallery.

Uptown the "Pubs" were full to the doors. At such a fair there are many travelling representatives of firms in distant towns. These gentry invariably make their headquarters in one of the dozen or more public houses of the place so that if you

should happen to have business with one of them it becomes necessary for you to literally make the "rounds of the saloons" to find your man. This of course makes a convenient excuse for the men to escape the watchful eye of their wives and spend an hour in the congenial company of the "Pub". Snatches of loud talking and of song came out of the various drinking places; while a piano hand-organ circulated about town, playing with strict impartiality, "She's a Lassie from Lancashire," and "In the Sweet By-and-By."

The sun sank behind the distant ranges turning them to purple and the nearer summits clad with heather and gorse to golden brown. The long shadows deepened and the evening smoke cloud which nightly hangs over the village when the housewives stir up the soft coal fires preparatory to the evening meal, softened the outlines of the old town. Lights gleamed from the shop windows or from the open doorways of the "Pubs," but the center of attraction was be-

side the placid Cain where a dozen electric arc lamps cast an unwonted splendor over the revels about the "hobby horses".

Far into the night the lights glittered and the wooden steeds circled. Long after the seventeen lamps which serve as beacons to help the wanderer shape his homeward course at night had been extinguished and the village had gone to rest, the revels continued. In the distant farm house the night stillness was broken from time to time by the singing of the merry-makers on their homeward way. Some lifted up their voices for the sheer love of music, but others—and I speak it softly—sang to keep up their courage. The fairies, elves and brownies, driven out of other countries still find asylum in the Celtic lands. We all know what happened at Alloway Kirk one night and many of the worthies of Llanfyllin know that certain dwellers in the hills have oftentimes met ghosts on their homeward journey, especially on Fair Nights when ghosts as well as mortals seem to be on pleasure bent. An in-

considerate ghost hurled his head at one of them, despite the fact that he had taken elaborate precautions to protect himself from supernatural molestation, such as for instance, swallowing a raw red herring entire from the head even unto the tail thereof at one sitting. So the ones who looked long at the wine when it was red at the "Wynnstay Arms" or the "Bala" fortified themselves and increased their courage by singing appropriate selections as they passed through the dark places on the road. "Lead Kindly Light" was a favorite. There was soul in the words for the singer entered deeply into the spirit of the song especially the lines "The night is dark and I am far from home," etc. It was spontaneous, it was sincere, it was true art.

But rising above nearby sounds, softened by the distance came the oft repeated strains of the hand-organ by the gently flowing Cain ever playing "Sweet Hour of Prayer" until carried on the wings of sacred song the listener entered the Land of Nod.

CARE OF THE WOODLOT

SUMMARY OF LECTURE DELIVERED BY WALTER MULFORD,
FARMERS' WEEK, 1911.

BRIEFLY, the woodlot is useful for its wood, for its welcome or scenic effect, for its capacity to conserve water for surrounding regions, and for windbreaks. It responds to care by quickened growth and by yielding better quality wood. This care should yield money returns within a reasonable time by timber, now partly grown, reaching merchantable size sooner; and by increased sale value in the near future, of land containing thrifty young timber even when not large enough to cut.

The first things to do in working for better quality and for faster growth are:

1st. Help the better kinds of trees, and discourage the poorer ones, when cutting.

2d. Keep a mulch of leaves on the soil, and keep the grass off. A leaf

mulch acts as irrigator, cultivator and fertilizer, whereas grass uses much water and means much less mulch. Also keep out fire; do not pasture; have the ground well shaded; and grow a wind mantle.

3d. Thin out when too crowded. Don't thin too fast or there will be danger of knotty timber and of losing the leaf mulch. Do not thin so heavily that more than one-third of the ground is exposed to the sun after cutting; unless there is a special reason for doing so, don't take two trees whose crowns adjoin—this applies to thinning, not to the final harvesting of the crop. Holes made in thinning should be filled up within a few years by growth of crowns of neighboring trees.

4th. Plant the open places if nature does not do it satisfactorily.

THE SECOND ANNUAL EASTMAN STAGE IN PUBLIC SPEAKING



Photo by La Son

EASTMAN STAGE.

C. L. Zinssmeister, '14, and prize
T. E. Elder, '11

David Elder, '12, Winner
W. H. Hook, '12

C. E. Ladd, '12
H. B. Knapp, '12

THE Eastman Stage was held in Sibley Dome on Friday evening of Farmers' Week. Although there were several other important functions on this same evening, the Dome was well filled with a very appreciative audience. The program was opened by the singing of the Alma Mater by the audience. Selections with encores by the Glee and Mandolin clubs were then given. Dean Bailey, the presiding officer of the evening, made some pertinent remarks regarding Farmers' Week, and before introducing the contestants, read a letter from Mr. A. R. Eastman, the founder of the Stage. Mr. Eastman resides at Waterville, N. Y. but is spending the winter in Florida. In the letter he expressed his keen regret at not being able to be present at the contest.

The first speaker on the program, Halsey B. Knapp, '12, took for his topic "The Farm Boy and the Agricultural College." He was followed by Carl E. Ladd, '12, who discussed "Agriculture in the High School." "Commercial Coöperation—Its Importance to the Farmer" was the subject of the third speaker, C. L. Zinssmeister, '14.

Between the halves a Quartette of agricultural students, members of the University Glee Club, gave some selections which were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

The first of the other three speakers was Wallace H. Hook, '12, who discussed "The Agricultural Advantages of New York State." T. Edwin Elder, '11, spoke on "The New South—The Land of Opportunity." The sixth and last speaker, David Elder,

'12, spoke "For a Parcels Post." For two or three minutes one might have thought that the express companies were represented by the steam pipes on the stage, which gave forth canon-like reports in an apparent attempt to drown out "Dave", but he was not bewildered by their thundering and they soon quieted down.

The judges for the contest were Prof. E. H. Woodruff of the Law College; Mr. W. G. Bean who is a farmer of McGraw, N. Y. and treasurer of the New York State Grange; and Mr. E. A. Tuttle who is a farmer of Eastport, L. I. and vice-president of the N. Y. S. Agr. Soc.

While the judges retired to ponder over the difficult task of choosing the winners, the audience was entertained by the String Quartette and the Glee and Mandolin Clubs. The silver cup won by the General Agricultural Club in a series of debates between the different Winter Course clubs, was presented at this time by Dean Bailey.

Prof. Woodruff then announced the decision of the judges, David

Elder of Pattersonville, N. Y. being awarded the first prize of \$75, and C. L. Zinssmeister of New York City the second prize of \$25.

Prof. Woodruff then made a few remarks in reference to the contest. He complimented on the uniform excellence of the speakers, saying that the Stage compared very favorably with the other stages which are open to all students of the University. He also brought out the importance of having more and better leaders among the farmers for advancing their business and social interests. Following these remarks, the program was ended by all joining in the Evening Song.

The speakers in this contest have set a high standard for future contests and are to be congratulated upon their good work, which is an honor to our College. All of the contestants are agreed that the experience obtained far more than repaid them for their efforts. The Eastman Stage is already one of the principal features of Farmers' Week and bids fair to become the main event, in the near future.

FOR A PARCELS POST

By David Elder, '12

EDITOR'S NOTE—This article won first prize in the Second Annual Eastman Stage, held in Sibley Dome, during Farmers' Week, Feb. 24, 1911

THE success or failure of agriculture or any other enterprise is today dependent upon transportation. Means of transportation, even eclipsing great natural resources, determine the location of our great cities and shape the industrial map of a continent. Rates of transportation determine the cost to the consumer and the returns to the producer. In our extensive and civilized country we are so dependent upon transportation that any excessive cost which a farmer pays for the distribution of his products is a serious drain upon his business, a limitation to his activities and an obstacle to his success. Many farm products, to

reach the consumer in a fresh condition must be sent by express. In the United States the interests of both producer and consumer demand cheaper express rates and better service.

Now it is an economic principle that government operation of public utilities is justifiable when it secures a utility otherwise impossible, better service or a lower price. Recognizing this principle, every great country in the world except the United States, provides for parcel transportation through the post office. The parcels post system, established in Germany nearly 150 years ago, is now in operation in all the important countries of

the world except the United States and our foreign consuls tell us that no arguments for or against the service, such as one hears in the United States, are ever raised. The system has been developed until now they handle articles up to 110 pounds in weight.

The extortionate parcel rates of the United States Post Office Department give the express companies a monopoly on parcel transportation in this country, which is not controlled by the natural laws of competition. The results of this monopoly, with which you are all familiar, stand in striking contrast to the service of an up-to-date parcels post system.

It is hardly necessary to remind you of last November, when the express drivers' strike in New York City allowed thousands of dollars worth of perishable products to rot, undelivered, while the German Parcels Post was making daily deliveries in New York City, delivering German products to the residents of New York with as great regularity and certainty as we receive our letters and daily papers.

But infinitely more important is the fact that the express companies make no deliveries outside the towns and cities, leaving the great mass of American farmers, representing a third of the country's population totally unprovided for, while the rural carrier goes on his daily route with only 25 pounds of mail. Former Postmaster-general Meyer said he could carry several times as much at no additional expense to the government, and three eleven-pound packages handled each trip on the rural routes already established would, even at the low rates proposed, not only put the rural routes on a paying basis, but would wipe out the entire deficit of the postal service.

Our foreign consuls tell us that the European farmers use the parcels post to ship to the cities their butter, eggs, fruit, vegetables and flowers "to actual consumers thus competing directly with the retail provisioning establishments of every city." Thus the European parcels post is actually

solving the great problems of transportation and distribution, directly from producer to consumer, with the elimination of the middleman. In these days when the producer gets only thirty-five cents out of the consumer's dollar, the parcels post is a burning question. The Country Life Commission after an exhaustive study of these problems said: "We hold that the parcels post is a necessity."

We have seen that the express companies make no deliveries for the farming population and that they are liable to be tied up by strikes at any time. For their incomplete and unsatisfactory service they charge rates unheard of in any other civilized country. The express rates on eleven pounds from New York to San Francisco is \$1.65. The English parcels post rate from London to San Francisco is only \$.25. Any man in Germany can mail an 11-pound package anywhere within a radius of 10 miles for six cents; to any postoffice in Germany for 13 cents; and to any post office in the United States for 80 cents. No man in the United States can mail an 11-pound package to his next door neighbor. If you or I wished to mail 11 pounds of merchandise from Ithaca to Forest Home we would have to first wrap it in three separate packages and then pay \$1.76 postage; 96 cents more than the German rate delivered in the United States; \$1.51 more than the English rate delivered anywhere in this country, and 44 cents more than is charged in the International Postal Union which delivers to practically any post office in the civilized world.

We have a merchandise rate to foreign countries of 12 cents a pound while the rate within the United States is 16 cents. This makes it possible for a man living on an Ithaca R. F. D. route to mail an 11 pound package to his friend over in London, have him remail it to Ithaca, do it 19 cents cheaper than he could mail it directly to Ithaca and be relieved of the trouble of wrapping it in three separate packages.

In view of the fact that many parcels are sent in more than four pound packages, and generally between points in this country and not to foreign countries, these rates sound ridiculous. But they sounded perfectly logical to a certain senator from New York who was president and lifelong director of the United States Express Company; for this company says in its Articles of Association and Agreement that no "director herein named, or that may hereafter be elected, shall be concerned or interested in any business or thing detrimental to the interests of said company, or in opposition thereto." Aside from this obligation, he probably received at least ten times as much salary as president of the company as he did from his office as senator. Receiving ten times as much salary wouldn't he work ten times as hard to live up to its "articles of association and agreement" and keep down parcels post legislation, as he would to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."?

"Who's Who" for 1911 shows that the senior senator from New York today is not only chairman of the board of directors of the four great "New York Central Lines" but is director of 34 other railroads. These roads not only haul the cars of practically every express company in the country but they dictate their price of 9 cents a pound for carrying United States mail and the Post Office Department must pay it. If the Post Office Department reduced the rates paid the railroads for carrying the mail, Mr. Depew would decree tomorrow that the New York Central lines would no longer handle U. S. Mail, and under the existing laws, the Postmaster-general would be powerless.

The Postoffice Department has been trying for years to reduce the extortionate parcel rates, and to reduce the price paid the railroads for carrying the mail; but a few men (?) in Congress said "no" and, in spite of the recommendations of President Roosevelt and President

Taft, these rates have not only been maintained but they are twice what they were way back in 1874.

When John Wanamaker, the father of our Rural Free Delivery Service was Postmaster General, he said we could handle parcels for one-twelfth their present cost in this country, but there were just four reasons why a parcels post was not established. His first reason was—the American Express Company, his second reason—the Adams Express Company, his third reason—the United States Express Company, and his fourth reason—the Wells Fargo Express Company.

Today these companies stand as they did twenty years ago, four gigantic parasites upon the American industrial system. The United States Postoffice Department has to handle all the unprofitable part of the business while struggling under an enormous deficit. All the profitable part is handled by the express companies. The year 1909 when our postal deficit was \$17,400,000 the Wells Fargo Express Company declared a dividend of 300 percent after paying enormous salaries to a large corps of officers and directors. In 1907, the Adams Express Company issued \$36,000,000 in bonds to its shareholders as a means of getting rid of its surplus earnings.

There is money in the parcel business. The United States is the only important country in the world which does not have a parcels post and the only important country in the world whose post office does not pay a profit. Secretary Meyer said that if the United States Post Office Department were a modern business corporation its board of directors wouldn't hesitate 48 hours to utilize the machinery we already have and establish a parcels post on the rural routes.

The editor of the *Independent* said only last month: "We believe that the American people almost without dissent demand a parcels post service; and that if put to a popular vote this demand would be expressed by a majority of 90 to 1 the country

over. We believe that the next step of social and economic progress in the United States is unquestionably bringing the producer and consumer together by reducing the cost of carrying small parcels." Last April there appeared before the House "Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads" representatives of 10,000,000 voters demanding a parcels post. Among these were representatives of the National Grange, the Farmers' Union and the Farmers' National Congress, each of which represents a membership of 3,000,000 farmers. The great labor organizations representing the consumers' point of view are demanding it. Some of the ablest experts in the country appeared before that committee with arguments and statistics enough to convince any unbiased man.

But the opposition to a parcels post in this country does not rest upon argument or logic or theory, but solely upon the power of the special

interests to control Congress. Yet there is not a man in Congress today who does not depend for his office, directly or indirectly, upon the votes of those whom he represents. There is but one way to get a parcels post, and that is for us to decide at the ballot box that it shall no longer be possible for the demands of 90,000,000 people to be subordinated to the dictates of a few monopolies and special interests.

Our forefathers when only three million in number had the courage to declare their political independence to every other nation. Shall we who have grown to ninety millions calmly submit to industrial dependence? Rather let us highly resolve that, with a confidence in the righteousness of our cause, we will not permit ourselves to depart one step from that immortal principle that the "government of the people by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

THE FIRELESS COOKER

By Clara Browning, '12

THE fireless cooker is gaining such favor with the up-to-date housewife, that every woman, undoubtedly, would like to have one if she could afford it. Now a fireless cooker can be made with *very little* trouble and expense. Centuries ago the Norwegian woman, after heating food, packed it in hay, to keep it hot to continue its cooking. Though she did not know it, she was putting into practical application two simple scientific principles.

The first is simply this: Some materials are not good conductors of heat. Therefore, wool, excelsior, shredded paper, hay, etc., are used as non-conductors. A kettle of hot food is well packed in one of these substances and the heat, unable to pass out, must stay in to cook the food.

The other important principle is this: Boiling food never gets hotter

than 212°F. More heat only produces steam. Hence heat beyond that necessary to keep the food at 212°F. is wasted.

Why not, then, heat food to the boiling point, remove it from the stove, and keep it at this high temperature by surrounding it *at once* with some heat-retaining material, thus saving additional fuel? This is exactly what is done by the fireless cooker.

We see, at once, that the essentials for a fireless cooker are few:

1. A kettle for the food.
2. Some non-conducting material as packing.
3. A tight box in which to hold the kettles and packing.

We will consider each in turn.

The kettle or pail should be made, preferably, of granite or aluminum ware as tin rusts. It must have a tight-fitting cover, straight parallel

sides and should at least be as high as it is wide.

Some good non-conducting materials are excelsior, wool, hay, paper, shavings, and asbestos. Some of these retain odors and so have to be replaced now and then. All are inexpensive and easily obtainable.

The box should be strong without open cracks because it, too, helps to hold the heat. It must have a tight fitting cover on hinges and must be fastened with a hasp.

Let us illustrate the construction of a fireless cooker, using newspaper as packing. First determine the size of the pail. It should be large enough to hold enough food to keep hot as a little food will soon cool. If a small quantity is to be cooked, it may be placed in a smaller pail set into a larger one containing water. The water is in sufficient quantity to hold heat for several hours. Then allowing at least four inches on every side for packing (more may be allowed to advantage) select the box. This should have a heavy, hinged cover. It will be well to line the box neatly with sheet asbestos. Then in the bottom to a depth of four inches pack firm layers of paper. On the top and center of this place the covered pail. The space around the pail should be filled with excelsior. The removal of the pail will leave a firm-walled hollow like the pail. But for safety a cloth lining may be made to fit into this in order that the shape may be kept. On top of the pail and filling the rest of the box completely should be either layers of excelsior or a cushion of some kind. This, too, must be at least four inches thick. The outside of the box may be painted or stained and the cooker is complete.

Now what particular advantages shall be gained from it?

1. We save fuel. This is especially true if the fuel is gas or alcohol for just as soon as the food is *heated through* the fire may be turned off and the cooker will complete the cooking.

2. We save time and labor in pre-

paring meals. They can be prepared at a convenient time and put into the fireless cooker. The meal will then be ready to serve hot, on time. The labor of dish washing is also reduced because food never burns on to the kettle. And since there is no danger of burning when the food is put into the cooker, our care of it and anxiety ceases. Of course the utensils which hold the food should be very clean. They ought to be sterilized. Care should also be taken that the food does not grow gradually cold. Gradual and long cooling and unsterile dishes offer opportunities for food to sour or spoil. But it is a simple matter to have the kettle clean and to have the cooker so well constructed that contents will keep hot. Quick cooling when it is removed is as necessary as in other means of food preparation.

3. There is less waste of food. It does not shrink so much from the loss of water as in ordinary cooking and there is no loss from sticking to the kettle.

4. Food cooked in this way tastes better. All the flavor which usually escapes as odor, is kept in the food. Consequently there is no odor of cooking.

5. The food is more easily digested. This is due partly, to the improved flavor, because wholesome, natural flavors cause the digestive juices to flow more readily. In some cases the increased digestibility is not due alone to flavor. Meats and eggs when subjected to quick, high temperatures become hard and tough. The long slow cooking in a fireless cooker makes them deliciously tender. Cereals and all starchy foods are also improved by this same method of cooking. For this fifth reason, if for no other, the fireless cooker should commend itself.

Many good fireless cookers are on the market if one does not want the trouble of constructing one at home. The later ones are lined with nickle and for that reason are more sanitary.

THE FIRST LIVE-STOCK INSTITUTE

SINCE Farmers' Week, 1910, the faculty of the Department of Animal Husbandry and the students especially interested in that Department discussed often the feasibility of holding a live stock institute or convention during Farmers' Week. This would include an exhibit of live stock and lectures on live-stock subjects by the faculty here and by breeders from around the state.

At the beginning of this college year these opinions and sentiments took definite form and a committee was elected from the Round Up Club, the informal organization of Animal Husbandry students, to go ahead and see what could be accomplished this year.

The committee sent out a large number of letters to the live stock breeders of the state to find out their sentiments. The responses were indeed gratifying. Due to the co-operation of the breeders, the Live Stock Institute of Farmers' Week, 1911, was made possible.

THE LIVE STOCK INSTITUTE

The old barns of the College held the live stock exhibit. In the old cow stable and covered barnyard temporary pens were erected which were filled with sheep and swine exhibited by neighboring breeders. A complete list will be given later. One row of stanchions held some of the College dairy herd and three steers, two of which were killed for the meat demonstration. The cows shown were all representatives of the well-known Glista family of Holsteins. As a matter of interest Glista Theta, one of the older cows, gave birth to a fine heifer calf on Thursday night. In the covered barnyard were three colts bred by the College.

Beyond the barnyard was the piggery containing the College herd of Cheshire swine. Most of these were listed for Friday's sale.

On the main floor is the horse stable. Here were exhibited two of the University work teams, the

big Belgian geldings, Jacque and Jean, and the team of black Percheron mares. The team of driving mares was also on exhibition. The Percheron stallion, Negro, and the Hackney stallion, Volunteer, attracted the attention and admiration of the visitors.

The horses exhibited by neighboring horsemen were as follows: A bay Percheron stallion by Mr. Darwin Rumsey, who also exhibited a team of grey Percheron mares. Mr. F. S. Peer very courteously put on exhibition his black three year old Percheron stallion and his Hackney pony stallion. Mr. C. E. Seaman exhibited a German Coach stallion.

As the visitors went down into the basement we will follow their course between the two rows of pens, going down on the right and coming up the left side, taking each by number. (1) Two Chester white sows exhibited by E. S. Hill of Freeville, (2) a Rambouillet ram exhibited by Mr. Markham of Avon, N. Y., (3) Yorkshire sow exhibited by Mr. Secord, Trumansburg, N. Y., (4) Duroc Jersey sow, (5) Poland China sow and two Essex sows, both pens exhibited by D. H. Townsend and Sons, Lodi, N. Y., (6) Berkshire boar exhibited by C. L. Buck, Groton, N. Y., (7) Two Berkshire pigs, 4 months old, (8) two Berkshire pigs, 10 months old, both pens exhibited by F. H. Benedict, McLean, N. Y. (9) Large Yorkshire boar exhibited by Mr. Secord.

Going up the other side the first pen contained (1) Rambouillet ewes exhibited by Mr. Markham of Avon, N. Y., and C. V. Wellman of Perry, N. Y., (2) Southdown sheep exhibited by Mr. Secord of Trumansburg, N. Y., (3) Southdown rams, same exhibitor, (4) Shropshire ewes exhibited by Mr. Davis, Ludlowville, N. Y., (5) Shropshire rams, same exhibitor, (6) Hampshire ewes exhibited by E. S. Hill, Freeville, N. Y., (7) Hampshire and Suffolk rams also shown by Mr. Hill, (8) Dorset ram and ewe exhibited by Heart's Delight Farm, Chazy,

N. Y., W. H. Miner, proprietor, C. E. Hamilton, manager. These were beautiful individuals of the breed and attracted considerable attention.

In the covered barnyard were seven pens of sheep all exhibited by D. H. Townsend & Sons, Lodi, N. Y. Their exhibit included the following breeds: Rambouillet, Cotswold, Lincoln, Cheviot, Dorset and Black Faced Highland. A great part of the success of this First Institute must be attributed to the courtesy of D. H. Townsend & Sons.

Upstairs were the sheep and lambs of the College herd. The little lambs were great favorites among our visitors of the fairer sex.

The first lecture of the week was given Monday at 9:00 by Prof. H. H. Wing on "The Treatment of Cows Before, During and After Parturition." This subject was continued in lectures on Wednesday and Friday morning. These lectures proved extremely popular. At 9:00 Prof. E. S. Savage gave his regular lecture on "Feeds and Feeding". On Monday afternoon there was the regular student practice in judging. At 7:30 the Round Up Club held its regular meeting. The program consisted of brief discussions by about fifteen of the students on "Animal Husbandry in My Home Locality."

Tuesday started off with a lecture by Professor M. W. Harper on "Outlook for Meat Production in New York State". At 11:00 Prof. Wing gave his regular Short Course lecture on "Breeds and Breeding."

Tuesday afternoon was devoted to a Horse Demonstration in the Judging pavilion which was very ably conducted by Prof. Harper who again emphasized the need of heavy horses on our New York farms and also the demand for them in our large cities.

On Tuesday evening one of the most instructive meetings of the week was held, a Round Table on Swine Production, led by Hon. C. J. Huson of Penn Yan, N. Y. There was a large attendance and those present voted it a decided success.

Wednesday morning at 9:00 Professor Harper delivered a lecture on the "Outlook for Horse Production." Professor Harper is a close student of this subject and gave the farmers many valuable suggestions which if carried out would put the horsemen of New York State on a competing basis with those in the West.

On Wednesday afternoon was held a cow judging contest open to all Farmers' Week visitors but not to students. Great interest was shown in this event there being forty-eight contestants.

At 4:00 p. m. another very instructive Round Table was held. This time the topic under discussion was "Cow-testing Associations." The meeting was conducted by A. J. Nichol of Delhi, N. Y.

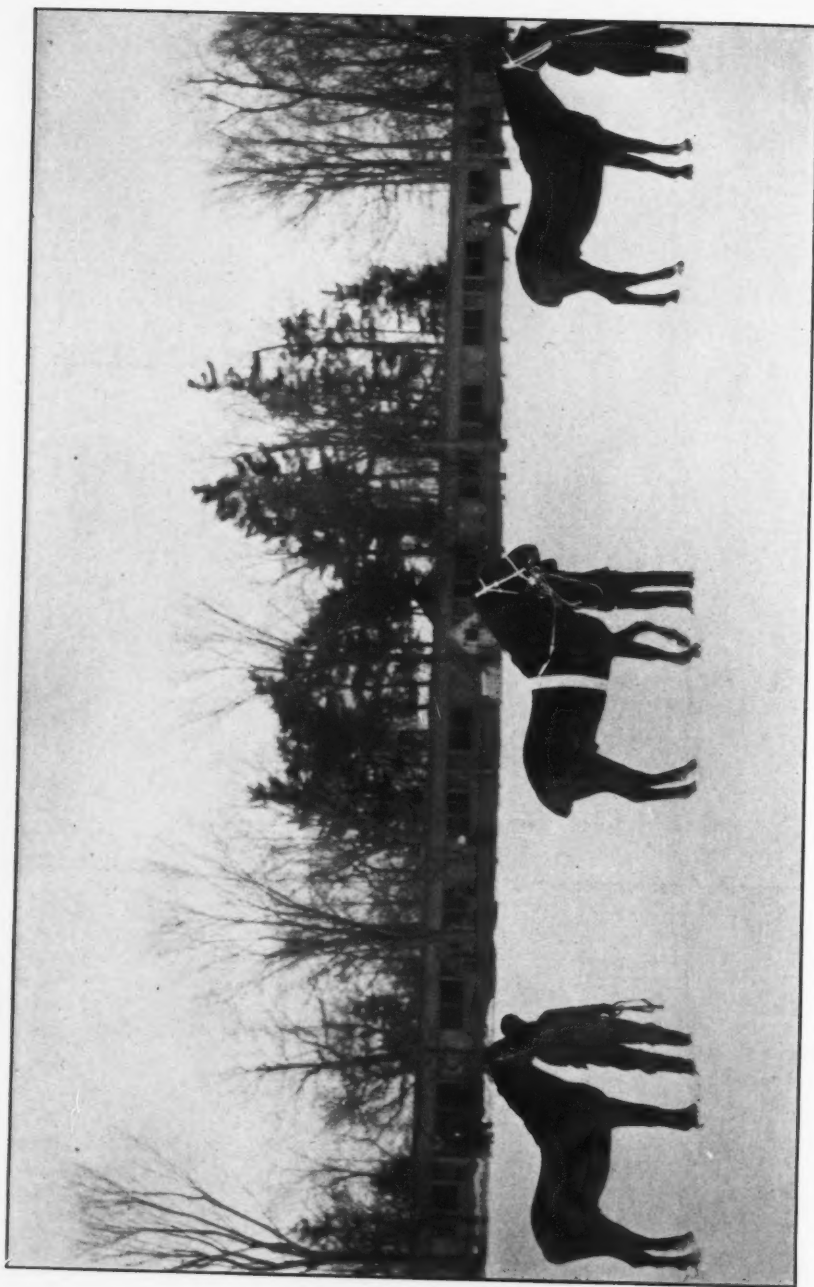
Wednesday evening was devoted to an Informal Live-stock Discussion and a social hour. The meeting was held in the Animal Husbandry library. Over a hundred guests were present. "Uncle Billy" Smallwood of Warsaw, N. Y., did much to enliven the program. After about an hour of informal discussion, refreshments consisting of milk, doughnuts, crackers and cheese, were served by the committee. To sum up this gathering would be to say that *everyone had a mighty good time.*

Thursday morning at 10:00 a. m. Professor Harper gave a lecture on "Horse Breeding in New York".

The meat demonstration on Thursday afternoon attracted a large crowd. The carcasses of two steers grown at the College were cut up and the parts listed with their prices on the black board. There was also a hot house lamb demonstration.

The six stallions on exhibition were paraded this afternoon.

Thursday night was the *big night* and the meeting was held in the auditorium. Professor H. H. Wing presided. First the prizes for the Cow-judging Contest were awarded. Professor Wing then introduced Professor C. S. Plumb of Ohio State University who is well known to all students of Animal Husbandry. Pro-



THE LIGHT HARNESS STALLIONS EXHIBITED DURING FARMERS' WEEK.

Hackney Pony Stallion,
owned by S. F. Peer, Ithaca.

Hackney Stallion, Volunteer,
owned by College of Agriculture.

German Coach Stallion,
owned by C. E. Seaman, Ithaca

fessor Plumb delivered a most interesting address, which indicated an enormous amount of thought in its preparation, on "The Relationship of Geography and the Blood Lines of a People to Live Stock Development." The lecture was illustrated by a large and excellent collection of lantern slides.

The next speaker was the well known Holstein breeder and business man, Mr. E. A. Powell of Syracuse, N. Y. Mr. Powell delivered a short but forceful and eloquent address on "Business Prospects and Opportunities of Live Stock Breeders."

Friday morning Professor M. W. Harper delivered his fourth lecture, "Care and Management of the Work Horse." This lecture was particularly interesting and instructive to the farmers who must every day take care of work horses.

Friday afternoon was devoted to an auction sale of the surplus stock of the College. The Animal Husbandry building was crowded to its limit with prospective buyers and interested spectators. The cattle sold comprised two three-year old Holstein heifers, one yearling Holstein heifer, two Holstein heifer calves, five Holstein bull calves and two Jersey bull calves. These animals sold for \$1,052.50, at an average of \$87.71.

Besides the cattle there were sold 18 Cheshire sows and 7 Cheshire boars for \$456, at an average of \$18.25. This makes the total realized from the sale \$1,508.50. The highest price received for an animal was \$250 for one of the three-year old heifers. Two of the sows brought \$35 a piece.

The Department is well pleased with the results of the sale.

An illustrated lecture Saturday morning by Professor Harper on "Training the Colt" concluded the program of the week.

The faculty and the committee in charge feel well satisfied with the first Live Stock Institute. Large numbers of people visited the exhibit of pure bred stock, which though few in numbers was high in quality, and the members of the committee who were on duty in the barns can vouch for many a lively and interesting discussion among our visitors. The lectures, demonstrations and round tables were crowded with interested listeners and questioners. The farmers were interested in all that the Department conducted.

However, the feeling of all concerned is that this undertaking is capable of great development. The breeders are interested and willing to back the project. With enthusiasm among the faculty and students and with hearty cooperation from the live stock breeders of the State, Farmers' Week of 1912 should include a Live Stock Institute of double the proportions of this our first but decidedly successful beginning.

Before closing the story of the First Live Stock Institute those in charge wish to express their sincere appreciation of the cooperation and interest of all those who supported our official program and to those breeders who at considerable inconvenience and expense brought their stock here for exhibition.

THE CORN SHOW

ONE of the features of Farmers' Week was the Corn Show held in the Farm Crops Laboratory. The room was attractively decorated with red and white bunting and with sample ears of corn hung upon the walls. The exhibit proper consisted of three parts, the Farmers' Exhibit arranged along a table at the west

side of the room, the Educational Exhibit on the middle table, and a School Childrens' Exhibit on the east side of the room.

In the Farmers' Exhibit there were over seventy entries consisting of the different varieties of flint and dent corn. In addition, there were several entries of sweet corn.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE CORN SHOW.

On the middle table there were many instructive exhibits, Mr. Edward F. Dibble's collection of varieties of corn adapted to New York State deserves special mention. The ears of corn from coöperative variety tests which Prof. P. J. White has been carrying on for the past two years in six different localities in this state were shown. The Department of Farm Practice exhibited some results from ear-to-row tests using Pride of the North corn. From certain of the ears over a bushel of well formed ears of choice corn was grown while from other ears of the same lot less than half a bushel of a much inferior type was obtained. Fifteen varieties of potatoes grown in a variety test by Mr. A. J. Nicoll, Delaware County, N. Y., were at one end of the table.

Samples of each of ten varieties of soy beans were sent in by Mr. A. Collson, Elmira, N. Y. Soy beans when grown with corn make an ex-

cellent silage crop. The medium Yellow variety seemed best adapted, for the seeds are well grown but not over ripened when the corn is in best condition to cut and the vines make a vigorous growth; a growth of over four feet in some cases.

The Nature-Study exhibit sent in by children from the rural schools was very interesting. There were samples of corn which had been judged by students of the College of Agriculture. Most praiseworthy specimens of work done in the rural schools were shown.

The students in charge of the Corn Show were as follows: H. B. Knapp, '12, general chairman; H. E. Dibble, '12, chairman of the exhibition committee; F. M. Briwa, Sp., chairman of the judging committee; T. J. McTarnaghan, '12, chairman of the decoration committee; and J. B. McCloskey, '12, chairman of the educational exhibit committee.

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL BANQUET

THE Eleventh Annual Banquet of the College of Agriculture was held in the Armory on Friday evening, February 17. During the previous week busy committee-men had besieged the halls of the College and on every side was heard the familiar greeting, "Have you bought your ticket for the Ag. Banquet?" When the four hundred Agriculturists sat down to the tastily decorated tables, nothing was lacking to make the affair a success. And a success it was from every standpoint.

The tables presented a most pleasing appearance, decorated as they were with palms, ferns and potted flowers from the College greenhouses. The speakers sat at an elevated table along the north side of the Armory. Just to the west of the speakers' table were members of the Agricultural Glee Club who, between the courses, led the banqueters in many a hearty song. Instrumental music was furnished by G. B. Birkhahn, '11, D. E. Smith, '14, W. A. Hutchison, '13, and J. P. Sanderson, Jr., '14.

After full justice had been done to the ample dinner, Dean Bailey acting as toastmaster announced the first speaker, T. Bradlee, '11, who discussed the subject of "Unity". He pointed out the rapid expansion of the Agricultural College during the past few years and expressed a fear lest with our rapid growth, we become so engrossed in routine duties that we forget our debt to the College. Our work is carrying us into so many different fields that we, as a student body, are becoming divided. The thing to do, he stated, is for every student to get out and boost the College; support the teams and enter into some form of activity.

Prof. G. W. Cavanaugh next spoke of the relation between student body and faculty. He said that only a few years ago there was a wide gap between the students and faculty,

now there is harmony. He related how, in former days, the students were wont to bring livestock into the lecture room. Now the tables are turned; the teacher leads in the animal and calls upon the student to discuss its points.

For the third speaker of the evening, J. W. Lacey was introduced to represent the short course men. The winter course men who go out from Cornell, said Mr. Lacey, are among the most valuable of the representatives of our college. These men will go directly to their farms in all parts of the state and will thus wield an immediate influence for better farming.

David F. Hoy then entertained the company with a few "Reminiscences." He spoke of the growth of the University, especially the growth of the College of Agriculture during the past twenty years. When he came here instruction in Agriculture was given in Morrill Hall. Professor Roberts taught a course embracing Animal Husbandry, Dairy, Agronomy and the plant industries. Now these subjects are divided among a large faculty. In closing, Mr. Hoy congratulated us on the high standard of scholarship maintained in the College of Agriculture.

Lastly, Dean Bailey spoke a few inspiring words. The growth of our College is depicted in the growth of the Annual Banquet which, he predicted, would before many years find the Armory too small. He outlined his plan of an ideal banquet which he hoped to see after the completion of the New Home Economics building where each student should contribute something of his or her own personality to the success of the whole affair.

When the toasts were over, all joined in singing the Evening Song after which the banqueters departed for their homes.

The Cornell Countryman

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MARCH, 1911

A Review

Farmers' Week of 1911 is now history.

Again, we can congratulate ourselves

because this year there was unquestionable improvement in many respects over the meetings of former years. Especially notable was the smoothness with which everything progressed, the absence of conflicts and consequent congestion of bewildered visitors in the corridors. Congratulations are due all those who executed the plans and the scheduling and to those students who handled so well the details of directing the crowds.

There is no doubt but that the program excelled that of former years, not only in the number of lectures and lecturers but in the diversity of subject matter treated. No seeker of information was turned away unanswered. Every phase of agricultural activity and many closely related activities were more or less fully discussed as opportunity allowed.

Especially notable and indicative of growth was the large number of conventions whose meetings were included in this one great "Farmer's Convention." Nearly every large Department of the College is now represented by an association. These latter held meetings full of live discussion and enthusiasm. There were too many of these meetings to enumerate here but reports of all are recorded in the first part of this issue.

This Farmers' Week also witnessed the formation of new associations. The Department of Animal Husbandry enlarged its usual Farmers' Week activities into a Live Stock Institute. In addition to numerous lectures, demonstrations, round tables and one big evening meeting in the auditorium there was an exhibit of pure bred livestock. Besides the college herds, animals were exhibited by neighboring breeders. This year marks but the beginning, the future will see great development in the live-stock exhibit.

Prominent among the results obtained was the formation of "The York State Country-Bond." Its purpose is to bond together for the purpose of bettering country life all who have at any time been connected with this institution. This organization has a wonderful opportunity for service. It is the duty of every one of us to support it.

But the great result after all is the enthusiasm that abounds and is taken away by our visitors. As one alumnus remarked, "If any person can spend Farmers' Week here without being filled with enthusiasm there is something wrong with that person!" We agree with the alumnus.

Game Protection

When our forefathers settled this State they existed largely by hunting the wild animals which abounded in our virgin forests. With the hewing out of homes from this wilderness the game retreated to the wilder, non-tillable spots. In this day we hunt not because we need food, but for sport. Good sport we commend, but sport not restricted by adequate legislation is too often the excuse for the "game hog" and pot hunter.

For a long time, we fear too long, the citizens of the State and of the nation have been indifferent to the ravages made upon our wild game. We are now waking up but the conditions that affront us are appalling. These conditions are presented much more vividly than it would be within our power to picture them in the article written by William T. Hornaday for this issue. Mr. Hornaday is widely known as a student of nature, an earnest game protector and a sportsman of the highest type. His words have great significance.

As an outgrowth of the sentiment against the slaughter of wild game and its sale on the market a well known game protector has drafted a bill prohibiting the sale of all wild game within the boundaries of New York State. This measure will be introduced in the State Legislature by Senator Howard R. Bayne and will be known as the Bayne Bill.

In writing of the Bayne Bill, Mr. Hornaday says: "The action proposed by this measure can not come a moment too soon. It is fairly beyond question that the killing of wild game for the market, and its sale both in the

"open season" and out of it, is responsible for the disappearance of at least fifty per cent. of our stock of American feathered game. It is the market gunner, the game-hog who shoots "for sport" and sells his game, and the game dealer, who have swept away the wild ducks, the ruffed grouse, the quail and the prairie chickens that thirty years ago were abundant on their natural ranges. Today, the waters of Carrituck Sound are a wholesale slaughter-place for migratory wild fowl with which to supply the markets of Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

The State of New York does not permit game killed within her own borders—and fully identified beyond the reach of trickery,—to be sold during her closed season; but the Empire State *does* permit the sale, all winter long, of game that has been killed in other States and shipped surreptitiously to New York!

All our feathered game is rapidly slipping away from us. *Are we going to save anything from the wreck?* Will we so weakly manage the game situation that later on there will be no legitimate bird-shooting for our younger sons, and our grandsons?

It is the duty of every true sportsman, every farmer who owns a gun, and every lover of wild life, to enter into the campaign for the passage of Senator Bayne's bill. Every citizen who believes in the justice of this cause should request his representatives in the legislature to vote for the Bayne bill to prohibit the sale of game; *and he should do it immediately.*"



CAMPUS NOTES

The February Assembly was held Thursday evening, February 2d. Although the fact of its coming during Block Week cut down the attendance somewhat, those present declared it one of the most pleasant gatherings of the year. The musical numbers included a vocal solo by W. J. Corwin, '11, and a violin solo by D. Finkelstein, '11. Dean Bailey addressed his remarks largely to the Short Course students for whom this was the last Assembly. His remarks as usual abounded with sound advice and striking humor. In closing the Dean urged the students to devote some of their time to good literature, stating how much good many very prominent men got from what they read. He also read selections from some of the best poetry and prose. The usual social hour followed the program.

* * *

On Saturday evening, February 18th, the Poultry Club held a banquet that was a fitting climax to the close of the Winter Poultry Course.

The banquet was held at the poultry laboratory, room 119, and the place was so tastefully decorated that it was hard to believe it the same old attic room.

Dean Bailey and Prof. Rice were the speakers of the evening, and commended the club on the good record made during the term. Pres. J. S. Wright acted as toastmaster.

Stunts by J. E. Dougherty, '11, G. J. Mason and G. F. Poggi were given between the addresses and

were highly enjoyed by the fifty persons present.

* * *

The Poultry Club carried off the basketball honors,—incidentally the cup—winning the final game with the Stone Agr. Club by the close score of 15 to 14.

* * *

Mrs. B. H. Tompers, of the Poultry Club, won the public speaking contest for Short Course students, held in the auditorium, Monday, February 20.

* * *

Professor C. A. Rogers of the Department of Poultry Husbandry has been attending Farmers' Week conventions in New England. During February he spoke at the Maine Agricultural College and at the Vermont State Agricultural College at Burlington.

* * *

On February 17, Mr. George Frederick Wheeler of the International Harvester Company gave a very interesting illustrated lecture on "The Romance of the Reaper."

* * *

On the 23d of last month a special organ recital was given by Organist E. F. Johnston in Sage Chapel for the Farmers' Week visitors. The chapel was packed with an appreciative audience.

* * *

On January 23d, Mr. Tenney, who was formerly connected with the Department of Agriculture, gave a very interesting talk in the Audi-

torium on, "Some Successes and Failures in Coöperation Among Fruit Growers."

* * *

"Coöperation Both Feasible and Possible," was the subject discussed at the last regular meeting of the Poultry Association held February 17th. The subject proved to be quite popular, nearly everyone taking part in the discussion. Many good points were also brought out in regard to starting coöperative societies in rural districts. In a vote taken at the close the majority were found to be in favor of the plan.

* * *

Another Farmers' Week was held at Alfred University from Feb. 27-March 4, by the New York State School of Agriculture. Professors H. H. Wing and M. W. Harper of the Animal Husbandry Department; G. W. Cavanaugh of the Agricultural Chemistry Department, and J. E. Rice of the Poultry Department were lecturers at that event.

* * *

On March 1st, Prof. Rice spoke before the Portland Farmers' Club of Portland, Me. and spent the remainder of the week at Amherst where he gave several lectures at the Amherst Agricultural College.

* * *

Prof. and Mrs. H. W. Riley are the proud parents of a son which arrived at their home on Wednesday, March 1st

* * *

Present enrollment in the College of Agriculture is: Graduates, 76; regular, 593; special, 174; winter-course, 477; total, 1,320.

* * *

An informal dance was given in the Sage Gymnasium on February 18, by the freshmen of the Agricultural college. The affair was a great success.

* * *

At last the location of the new buildings of the Agricultural college has been announced. It has been decided to establish a new quadrangle of which the three existing Agricultural buildings will form the

south side. At the western end of the quadrangle the new Auditorium will be placed. This will be located at the west side of Garden Avenue, to the rear of Rockefeller Hall.

On the northern side will be a space for a few buildings, of which the western will be the Home Economics Building. The rest of this space will be filled up as the growth of the college demands.

The building for the Poultry Husbandry Department is not on the quadrangle but east of it toward the new barns. State Architect Ware is at present arranging for the preparation of the detail plans and specifications. As soon as these are completed, bids will be called for.

* * *

The agricultural intercollege crew has started training for the races in May. A large number of candidates reported at the first call and the outlook for a successful season is very bright. The crew will probably get on the water early in March.

* * *

On February 3d, Prof. Fippin spoke before the National Association of Lime Manufacturers at Pittsburg. His topic was "The Importance of Texture and the Magnesium Content of Lime in Relation to Soil Improvement."

* * *

Messrs. Jensen, Blodgett, and Wallace, Fellows in the Department of Plant Pathology, recently spent a week in bibliographic work in the library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C.

* * *

A Managers' Course in Dairy Industry was given by the Dairy Department, March 1 to 8. This course was primarily for men who were actively engaged in the dairy business and who desired to acquaint themselves with recent advances in the work.

* * *

M. E. defeated Agriculture in a closely contested game of basketball February 23 with a score of 16 to 15. This leaves the standings of the col-

leges as follows: Law, first; M. E., second; C. E., third; and Agriculture, fourth.

* * *

At the meeting of the Round Up Club, Monday evening, February 27th, J. H. Neethling, '11, gave a most interesting talk on "Animal Industry in South Africa." Mr. Neethling is a government student from South Africa. Having spent his life in South Africa and knowing so well its conditions and its possibilities Mr. Neethling was able to give a most entertaining as well as instructive talk. Several lantern slides of South African scenes were shown.

* * *

Professor Walter Mulford recently delivered two lectures on Forestry. In the first lecture on February 13th, Prof. Mulford discussed the opportunities for young men in Forestry and explained what were the fundamental requirements for this work. On February 14th he delivered a very interesting illustrated lecture on "A Day's Work of One of Uncle Sam's Foresters."

* * *

At the meeting of the Round Up Club on February 13th, A. L. Thompson, '11, gave a talk on "The Percheron Horse."

* * *

Prof. Mulford has returned to Ann Arbor, Mich., where he will remain until April, when he hopes to again visit Ithaca for a few days.

* * *

An agricultural exhibit is being prepared by the College as part of a University exhibit to be sent to the International Exposition held at Turin, Italy, during the coming summer.

* * *

During his recent trip to the Corn Congress in Ohio, Dean Bailey spoke before Sigma Xi of the University of Ohio.

* * *

The planting of the new orchard on the Pomological grounds will be continued this spring. The Department has leased the old McGowen Orchard

which will be used as a laboratory for student practice.

* * *

A meeting of international importance was held at Tampa by the American Pomological Society, which is the national fruit grower's association of the United States and Canada.

Delegates from twenty-six horticultural organizations representing twenty-five states were present. Prof. Craig was reelected secretary, and authorized to edit a pomological history, which it is expected the society will publish in the near future.

* * *

On the 7th of February, Prof. Craig addressed the Georgia Horticultural Society at Thomasville, Ga., on "Recent Progress in Horticulture."

* * *

On Thursday evening of Farmers' Week a re-union of the Stone Club was held, at which many members who had studied under Prof. Stone in 1908, and the following winters were present. Professor Stone was enthusiastically received and explained the present plans of the college. Different members told of their past successes and plans for the future.

Prof. Tuck explained the object of the Students' Association. It was brought out that in many cases there are many Agricultural students living in the same county, who are unacquainted with one another. He outlined the plan of forming county branches of the Student's Association, similar to the Long Island branch, in order to bring former students together for social reasons and that they may be more instrumental in improving local conditions, as outlined by Dean Bailey and indorsed by the general meeting of the Students' Association. All present were much interested in the plan and agreed that each should do what he can in furthering the movement.

* * *

A new circular on "The Box Packing of Apples" by Prof. C. S. Wilson is now ready for distribution. It contains the substance of his lecture on the subject delivered Farmers' Week,

and describes in detail a practical home-made press for nailing apple boxes. The best apples for box packing are: MacIntosh, Fameuse, Northern Spy, King, Hubbardston, and sometimes the Baldwin and the Rome Beauty.

* * *

Mr. Lipman has resigned his position as Assistant in Soil Technology, having completed his college course. A. K. Getman will occupy this position for this term.

* * *

Prof. John Michels, formerly Professor in Cheese Making, has ac-

cepted a position in Milwaukee as editor of *The Butter, Cheese, and Egg Journal*.

* * *

E. Wallace and E. W. Mitchell of the Department of Plant Pathology, read papers at the eastern meeting of the New York Fruit Growers Association held at Poughkeepsie, Feb. 23 and 24.

* * *

Commissioner of Agriculture, R. A. Pearson delivered a special lecture before the Short Course students, February 21, on "The Dairy Laws of New York State."

FORMER STUDENTS

'93, Sp.—Henry J. Lyman is managing a stock farm at Kapoho, Hawaii.

'98, M. S. A.—J. Edgar Higgins of the United States Experiment station at Honolulu has been for some time past in Hawaii, the largest island of the group, looking over the banana situation.

'01, B. S. A.—D. L. Van Dine is now entomologist at the experiment station of the Association of Sugar Producers of Porto Rico, at Rio Piedras, Porto Rico.

'05, W. C. Poultry.—Mr. Gus. Walters is now managing a 3000 acre poultry farm at Marion, N. D.

'06, B. S. A.—Jacob Taubenhause of the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station read a paper on "A Study of Some Anthracnoses and Their Relation to a Sweet Pea Disease" at the Minneapolis meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

'06, B. S. A.—Edward Mansfield Swiggert is now Superintendent of Parks in Utica, N. Y., with an office at 41 Martin Building.

'07, B. S. A.—Mr. M. J. Shepard is now at San Marcos, Texas where he has for the last year been developing sewerage irrigated lands. He is quite enthusiastic concerning conditions in that section.

'07, W. P.—E. Thurman Covington of Centreville, Md., aged 22, died at his home, February 2, 1911, after a lingering illness of two years.

'08, Sp.—Miss Mary Conway and Tryjgoe E. Schreiner were married January 27, 1911 in Ithaca, N. Y. Mr. Schreiner is now superintendent of the Poultry Department at the Kansas State Agricultural College. Mr. and Mrs. Schreiner will make their home at Manhattan, Kansas.

'08, B. S. A.; '09, M. S. A.—E. C. Ewing is with the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station.

'08, W. A.—R. C. Baynard who was married in December, '09, took possession of his farm at Carmichael, Md., in January, 1910. He is gradually developing a good dairy along with considerable general farming.

'08, W. A.—J. L. Wells is making a specialty of dairying and hog raising on his farm at Spring City, Pa.

'08, W. A.—M. V. Wilkinson is at present taking a special course here.

'08, W. A.—On February 1, 1911 Mr. D. B. Knight assumed the duties of farm superintendent at the Berkshire Industrial School, Caanan, N. Y.

'09, B. S. A.—Edward H. Thomson is a scientific assistant in the Office of Farm Management of the United

States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

'09, B. S. A.—C. M. Bennett is representing the Government in co-operative work in Farm Economics at the University of Wisconsin. During Farmers' Week he was in Ithaca while on his way to attend a convention at Washington.

'09, Sp.—F. D. Palmer is engaged in official testing work throughout the State under the direction of Prof. Wing.

'10, B. S. A.—P. H. Elwood, jr., is with Charles W. Leavitt, jr., landscape engineer, at 220 Broadway, New York. His personal address is 66 Quincy street, Brooklyn.

'10, B. S. A.—Miss Elizabeth Leonard left this country for England in December to accept a position as landscape architect.

'10, Ph.D.—Dr. Eugene P. Humbert, who received his Ph.D. degree from Cornell last June, and who last fall accepted a position in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., has resigned his position at Washington to go to the University of Maine to work with Dr. Raymond Pearl on experimental studies in genetics.

'10 W. P.—Frank E. Mixa has been awarded a five acre farm in Missouri which he won in a contest in which over two hundred persons, from nineteen different states, competed. The farm, given as first prize, is located near a thriving village and is estimated to be worth \$250 to \$300. The deed to the farm will be delivered to him by the Governor of the state.

Mr. Mixa is now assistant in Poultry Husbandry at the Iowa State Agricultural College.

'10, W. P.—Fred G. Quern secured seventh place in the same contest and received a \$5.00 prize.

'10, W. H.—Mr. Geo. Sprague has been located at Turner Hill Farm, Ipswich, Mass. where he is foreman of its fruit department.

'10, W. H.—Mr. W. P. Harris secured high honors at a late meeting of the Maryland Horticultural Society. Mr. Harris exhibited some excellent boxed apples.

'10, W. H.—Mr. Hamilton has purchased a ten acre farm near Gasport, N. Y. where he will specialize in berries.

'10, W. H.—Mr. V. H. Tift has been with Mr. Ira Pease the past season.

BOOK REVIEWS

RURAL HYGIENE, by Henry N. Ogden, C.E.

This work by the Professor of Sanitary Engineering in the College of Civil Engineering, Cornell University, is of value to all who are interested in country life. The author discusses the location and construction of farm buildings; ventilation; water supply; sewage disposal; the care of foods; personal hygiene; and diseases. The book takes up from the standpoint of an engineer the structural side of public hygiene and attaches emphasis to quarantine, disinfection, and prevention of contagious diseases. The general reader, the farmer, or the student of sanitary science will find this book a fund of practical suggestions and useful information. Published by Macmillan & Company, New York; 434 pages, 79 illustrations; price \$1.50 net, postage 20 cents additional.



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MIDDLE AND UPPER PORTAGE FALLS, GENESEE RIVER.